THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and foreign Literature, Science, and the fine Arts.

No. 2017.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1866.

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Any one who has observed the character of the Germans, who has studied the late history of Germany, must be aware that there is no hope of a speedy change unless it is the result of a violent struggle. The mere chronicle of the reforms which have been proposed since 1859, and of their reception by the various governments, is enough to prove that each detail would have needed a century of peaceable work in the Diet. Each sovereign, each statesman, would have his particular theory of what was due to the crown he wore, to the district he represented. A plan which proceeded from Austria would not take with Prussia, and one which found favour with the two great powers would most certainly be rejected by the small ones. Proposals to extend the power of the sovereigns would necessarily lead to popular dis-content. The mere hint of a General Parliament would seem revolution to the sovereigns. In fact, the only reform that stood a chance of being accepted by one half of Germany was a reform that should change nothing. All grievances were to be redressed, and no abuses were to be swept away. The people were to be free, and all the tyrants were to remain.

Whether we look at the discussions which followed the Revolution of 1848, or the suggestions which have been made since the collapse of Austria in 1859, we find the same hopeless confusion. Mr. Grant Duff's study of the Germanic Diet gives a clear sketch of all these attempts, and impartially chronicles their failure. They may have deserved to succeed, but their failure was certain. It would be much pleasanter if revolutions could be made with rose-water, if the small princes of Germany would see that they were in the way and would retire gracefully; but as we can hardly expect such abnegation, it is plain that there must be a resort to less pleasing expedients. When once the difficulty is felt, there must be a general clearance.

That this was the real feeling of the German people is shown in the turn taken by public opinion on the Schleswig-Holstein war. Some of our English legists—putting paper-rights against natural rights—speak of the Schleswig-Holstein war as a brutal aggression on Denmark; but the Schleswig-Holstein war had a purely political meaning for Germany: it was the first step towards unity. The national feeling of the Germans had developed itself almost exclusively by sentative of freedom and unity.

brooding on Schleswig-Holstein, and any power which put itself at the head of the national feeling, as far as the Duchies were concerned, made a high bid for the more extended leadership of the nation. The Germans saw that a short campaign had given them what fifteen years campaign had given them what intern years of argument had not brought a step nearer. The conclusion was obvious. Why not try the effects of a short campaign on the unity of Germany?

The programme put forward by Prussia shows the acceptance of this view. The Prussians profess "to take up arms on behalf of the national development of Germany, hitherto so powerfully hindered by individual interests. May the German people keep this lofty aim in view, and meet Prussia with confidence, and help to forward and secure the peaceful development of the united Fatherland!" In other words, the war which has just begun is not a quarrel between Prussia and Austria, but an attempt at the consolidation of Northern Germany by the only means which, with such a people as the Germans, can prove effectual. To judge this attempt rightly, we must leave out of sight the accidents of the struggle, the character of the present King and the present ministers of Prussia, the sincerity of their intentions and the value of their word. We must ask ourselves whether Germany is ever to become a nation, and whether there is any prospect of her becoming a nation by the mere force of argument. If we are content to see her split up into more than thirty particles, instead of forming two considerable states, we may be consistent in objecting to her struggle for national development. But we are not consistent in ridiculing her divisions till she tries to heal them, and exclaiming against the immorality of a step which our taunts have suggested.

"German patriots," says Mr. Grant Duff, "pray for sages on the throne of Prussia, and fools on all the minor thrones; but as yet their prayers do not meet with any very satisfactory answer." The first half of their prayer has certainly not been answered. How fair a chance of the unity of Germany was thrown away in 1848 through the blindness of the late King of Prussia! That crown might have been worn in eace which must now be purchased with blood. But there was an agency at work in 1848 which may now be left out of the account, and the issue is made much simpler as Austria is deprived of an ally and Prussia of a counsellor. The influence of the Czar Nicholas was strongly exerted in favour of Austria, because he looked upon Austria as the supporter of legitimacy. It was that same influence which gave Schleswig-Holstein to Denmark, which saved Austria in Hungary, which led France to think twice before taking the part of Italy. If Russia was still strong and unbroken, nothing would be more repugnant to her instincts than the sight of a strong North German kingdom bordering close upon Poland. To the rest of Europe such a sight should be doubly welcome, as it opposes one more barrier to Muscovite aggression. But England has more reasons than this for welcoming the union of North Germany. We are bound to North Germany by many ties, by tradition, by family, by mutual interests, by religion. Since England gave her assistance to Frederick the Great in the Seven Years' War, there have been many signs that we looked for a Protestant ally on the Continent to throw its weight into the balance against the Catholic powers France and Austria. We all trust that the next ruler of Prussia will be nearer to England than any of his predecessors, and that England will give Prussia not only a Queen, but a repre-

The most favourable sign for Prussia in the present war is that her acceptance of the popular cry has been received with enthusiasm by the people, and with defiance by the princes. Anything which enlists the people of Germany against their princes, is sure to have a lasting effect in a country where the princes are so many and the people have been so long subject to them. When Frederick William the Fourth was offered the crown of Germany, he wrote to Arndt: "Is this offspring of the Revolution of 1848 really a crown? It has no cross on it. It does not mark on the brow of him who wears it the seal of the grace of God. It is the iron collar which would reduce to the position of a slave the descendant of twenty-four electors and kings, the chief of sixteen millions of men, and of the bravest and most devoted army in the world." And so long as this view prevailed, there was no chance of Prussia taking the lead. No cross no crown was the sentiment of Frederick William. The same man had told the Landtag of 1847, that the last thing its members were to do was to represent the people, and had exclaimed, "Never, never will I allow a piece of written paper, like a second Providence, to force its way between our Lord God in Heaven and this land, to rule us with its paragraphs, and to supersede by them the old holy loyalty." Yet in less than two years he granted a constitution which has fully answered to the sneer of being a piece of written paper, and which has done much to supersede the old holy loyalty felt by the people for their sovereign.

But though Frederick William had to retract his denunciation of pieces of written paper, he had no opportunity of withdrawing his refusal of the German crown. Such chances never come twice in a lifetime. It is not often that they come twice in a century. Now indeed the chance has come again. The golden opportunity, which Mr. Carlyle cannot blame his hero for seizing, is once more within the grasp of Prussia. On the one side is Austria, rent by internal dissensions, and menaced by that Italy which till now she has thought it safe to outrage. The smaller sovereigns of Germany are furious with a power which threatens to oust them by an appeal to their peoples. But of these smaller states the majority are under the curb of Prussia, and Prussia will, no doubt, leave the southern members of the Confederation to be either absorbed by Austria, or to fight their

own battles against her.

There has been a talk of disaffection in Prussia itself. Some have thought that the unpopularity of the present regime, which, no doubt, is considerable, might interfere with the willingness of the people to serve; and it has been said that the reserves in some places showed a great reluctance. We hear from friends in Germany that this reluctance has been shown, but in such a way as to give it a totally different meaning. It has been confined to the Rhenish provinces, and in them it has proceeded from the Roman Catholic priests. priests have received the mot d'ordre to agitate against the war, with the very natural hope that, if Austria wins, France will not dare to withdraw her troops from Rome. Accordingly, the priest goes to the wife of some hard-working man who is summoned to join his corps, and tells her that if her husband leaves home, she and the children will be left to starve. The Frau clasps her hands, and asks in Gottes Namen what she is to do. She is told to go to the Bürgermeister, and insist on her husband being left with her. The consequence is that she goes to the Bürgermeister, with her whole family of children; she begins to cry and the children

begin to squall: the Bürgermeister tries to pacify her, but she refuses to be comforted: she declares that she will not leave the place, and the children show most convincingly that they will not stop squalling, till the Vater is respited; and at last the Bürgermeister has to send to the commandant, and ask that the man may be restored to his wife and family. We believe several such cases have happened, and it is significant that all should have occurred in the same district. The priests seem to forget that the only result of making an agitation against Prussia in the Rhenish provinces will be to give France an excuse for demanding their annexation. We can hardly think that Rome is so devoted to France as to wish for such a consummation. The feeling of Germany on the subject is so strong that, as Mr. Grant Duff says very truly, a wilder dream than the French desire for the frontier of the Rhine never entered into the imagination. "Any attempt to realize it," he adds, "would bring about such a union of Germany as few have ever hoped for;" and any action on the part of the German Catholics that excited Protestant feeling against them would react more strongly on Rome than on Germany. There has been of late no lack of dissatisfaction with Rome, even in the most orthodox circles. The Encyclical caused no pleasant sensation among the many moderate German Catholics. It is some years since the most eminent Catholic divine of Germany declared that the Temporal Power could not exist much longer in its present shape. Since then the greatest learning in Germany has been virtually censured, and the highest authority has been warned to keep silence. Little more is needed on the part of Rome to make the breach irreconcilable, and to throw back the whole of Germany on that national life which is most antagonistic to foreign influences.

Even if the fact of disaffection had been literally true, we believe that the outbreak of war would have put an end to it. So often, and in so many countries, we have seen a decided reluctance to engage in war superseded by hearty enthusiasm when war was declared. In France before the Italian campaign, in Germany before the Schleswig-Holstein war, there was something of that feeling, and each time that feeling was conquered. Mr. Helps has noticed this phenomenon in his 'Friends in Council,' but has confined it to countries under despotic rule. A German historian has remarked its prevalence in England, though in England the first feeling is not reluctance, but indifference; and the succeeding feeling is not enthusiasm, but earnestness. In the case of the present war, the feeling must be stronger than ever. It may not at the first be decisive: it may undergo changes as the fortune of war varies; it may be influenced by many circumstances, and may waver as there are conflicting emotions that rise uppermost: but in the end it will be steady, as it represents the wish of the German people; and when this wish comes the German people; and when this wish comes to the top, through all the disguises assumed or forced upon it, when the Germans see that they are fighting for unity against helpless divisions, for liberty against dynasties, there will be no bar between the idea and its realization.

Although it seems to those looking from the outside that the same difficulties beset both Prussia and Austria, as each is a long, straggling body, and neither is compact or homogeneous. one material distinction is to be made between them. Prussia (as Mr. Grant Duff shows) is a natural, Austria an artificial body. The countries which adjoin or run into Prussia are connected with her by many ties, and are one

with her in interests. No one can say the same of the countries which compose the empire of Austria. Prussia has known ever since the time of the great Elector how to mould her component parts into one body. The limbs she throws out, which give her the appearance of disunion, are not separated from the main trunk; they are not stragglers, but advanced guards; not branches lopped off, but growing branches. While Austria's provinces are her weakness, Prussia's provinces are her strength. Austria has long been doubting between her eastern and her western dominions; some advisers have told her to give up Vienna, and fix her capital at Pesth; others would have her grant the Hungarians an absolute autonomy, and make a bid for the German Empire. But there have never been two opinions about the course of Prussia. She must have North Germany whenever she chooses to take it. How she was to take it, was the only question. What were to be the boundaries of the new kingdom? was France to be offered a sop? was a compromise to be made with Austria? and was Austria to profit by the example?-these were the points discussed, and the problems that defied solution. But these problems are not to be compared with those which have long paralyzed the efforts of Austrian statesmen, and which must now lead them to accept with despair whatever Fate may choose to give them. best that can be given them is something which is more favourable than they have a right to expect, but which they never could have demanded; and even if the fortune of war should favour Austria, we do not know that this will be given her.

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It is very possible that South Germany may drag on for some time longer without any material change, that the fragments of the Diet may survive on the other side of the Main, and that parts of Austria and Bavaria may be ignorant of what has taken place in the North. But meanwhile the North will have constituted itself; and in the sight of a large compact body where formerly so many provinces were ham-pered by so many princelings, of an active and industrious centre of commerce in the place of hardworking individuals and obstructive governments, of narrow provincialism succeeded by thoughts of general welfare, and petty pride expanding into emulation, there is much for England to admire, nothing for England to

The Prince's Progress; and other Poems. By Christina Rossetti. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE pathos which springs from a sense of what is deep and abiding in human love and desire, and of what is casual and brief in human fortune, would seem to give the tone to Miss Rossetti's musings. With her the perception of beauty, however, is as keen as that of pathos, and these together form an imagination sadly sweet-one, moreover, which has been long and sedulously disciplined. In the book before us this imagination is seen in its prime: the sentiment is warm, the observation fresh, the art subtle and mature. We have the summer of the writer's genius, which sits less, indeed, in the sunshine than where

The cedar sheds its dark green layers of shade, or the yew overshadows the mound. The foliage above is thick and dark, but the foliage of

summer still.

'The Prince's Progress,' like the 'Goblin Market' of the same writer, is an allegory, and an allegory, moreover, illustrating a similar idea. In both works the argument is the power of temptation to beguile man from the worthy and earnest work of life. In 'Goblin Market'

the temptations are resisted and overcome,-in 'The Prince's Progress' they triumph. Pene trated with the conviction that the waiting Princess pines under his delay, the Prince is, nevertheless, drawn from the direct road by every wayside inducement. The moral of the poem, therefore, lies in the value which it attaches to the strong will that can postpone present pleasure for the sake of the hereafter.

In a great measure Miss Rossetti redeems her work from stiffness and artificial ingenuity generally the besetting weakness of allegory by painting scenes which, though touched by the light of imagination, are yet as vividly true as if they were photographs of familiar objects. Here, for example, is a description of the arid region in passing through which the worn-out Prince suffers himself to be delayed at the cave of the Rosierucian :-

Off he set. The grass grew rare, A blight lurked in the darkening air, The very moss grew hueless and spare, The last daisy stood all astunt; Behind his back the soll lay bare, But barer in front.

A land of chasm and rent, a land Of rugged blackness on either hand: If water trickled its track was tanned With an edge of rust to the chink; If one stamped on stone or on sand It returned a clink.

A lifeless land, a loveless land, Without lair or nest on either hand: Only scorpions jerked in the sand, Black as black iron, or dusty pale; From point to point sheer rock was manned By scorpions in mail.

A land of neither life nor death, Where no man buildeth or fashioneth, Where no man bulldern or fashionern, Where none draws living or dying breath; No man cometh or goeth there, No man doeth, seeketh, saith, In the stagnant air.

If the above extract shows the writer's power in painting external nature, the end of the poem no less reveals her faculty of exhibiting, in forcible and affecting pictures, human suffering, feebleness, and remorse. After many delays on his road and wanderings from it, the Prince at length reaches the palace of her who should have been his rescued bride; but, alas !-

Day is over, the day that wore.
What is this that comes through the door,
The face covered, the feet before?
This that coming takes his breath;
This Bride not seen, to be seen no more
Save of Bridegroom Death?

Veiled figures carrying her Sweep by, yet make no stir; There is a smell of spice and myrrh, A bride-chant burdened with one: The bride-song rises steadier Than the torches' flame:

'Too late for love, too late for joy,
Too late, too late!
You loitered on the road too long,
You trifled at the gate:
The enchanted dove upon her branch
Died without a mate;
The enchanted princess in her tower
Slept, died, behind the grate:
Her heart was starving all this while
You made it wait.

You made it wait.
"Ten years ago, five years ago,
One year ago,
Even then you had arrived in time,
Though somewhat slow;
Then you had known her living face
Which now you cannot know:
The frozen fountain would have leaped,
The buds gone on to blow,
The warm south wind would have awaked
To melt the snow.

"Is she fair now as she lies? Once she was fair; Meet queen for any kingly king, With gold-dust on her hair. Now these are poppies in her locks, White poppies she must wear; Must wear a veil to shroud her face And the want graven there:
Or is the hunger fed at length,
Cast off the care?

"We never saw her with a smile Or with a frown; Her bed seemed never soft to her, Though tossed of down;

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She little heeded what she wore, Kirle, or wreath, or gown; We think her white brows often ached Beneath her crown, Till silvery hairs showed in her locks That used to be so brown.

"We never heard her speak in haste: Her tones were sweet, And modulated just so much As it was meet: Her heart sat silent through the noise And concourse of the street. There was no hurry in her hands, No hurry in her feet; There was no bliss drew nigh to her, That she might run to greet.

"You should have wept her yesterday, Wasting upon her bed; But wherefore should you weep to-day That she is dead?
Lo, we who love weep not to-day, But crown her royal head.
Let be these poppies that we strew, Your roses are too red;
Let be these popples, not for you Cut down and spread."

Of the plaintive sentiment of these stanzas. of their music, of the beauty by which the per-vading idea is illustrated, no qualified reader of poetry can doubt. Here, too, as elsewhere, we note a speciality of Miss Rossetti's mind. She seldom offers to us pictures of present emohumanity until the flush of human impulse has numanty until the flush of numan impulse has died away. We do not see the conflict of the heart, but the sequel of that conflict. Hence there is in some of her best pictures the air of the cathedral rather than that of the world without. Her saints and heroes have not the stir and dust of life about them; but they smile to us in a repose almost mournful, like efficies from a stained window or the sculptured forms of knight and dame in the coloured light of the aisle. We notice, indeed, not without regret, that most of these poems are set in a minor key—that a strain of suffering insinuates itself even into the author's devotional pieces. It is true that to all who think and feel deeply a mystery broods over life, and that its enigmas are not to be solved by conventional phrases; still "'tis in ourselves," after all, "that we are thus or thus"; and the proofs which sustain our hope are certainly not more important than the disposition to recognize them. It may example the disposition to recognize them. It may even be that the spiritual instinct which we call faith is its own best evidence. In the poetic mind, if in any, we expect this instinct to pre-dominate; and we cannot but lament that the tone of Miss Rossetti's poetry—always, be it remembered, religiously submissive—should be that of the dirge rather than of the anthem. Setting aside this objection, and warning the reader that the volume is not poetry made easy, but a book which requires a co-operating imagination on his own part, we warmly com-mend it to perusal. There is scarcely a poem (if we make any exception it is to 'Under the Rose') which does not evolve a distinct idea or feeling with finished charm of manner. Of the melody and beauty with which melody itself can be described, we find, in the poem called 'Maiden-Song,' an example which we cannot refuse to extract :-

Trilled her song and swelled her song
With maiden coy caprice
In a labyrinth of throbs,
Pauses, cadences;
Clear-noted as a dropping brook,
Soft-noted like the bees,
Wild-noted as the shivering wind
Forlorn through forest trees:
Love-noted like the wood-pigeon
Who hides herself for love,
Yet cannot keep her secret safe,
But cooes and cooes thereof:
Thus the notes rang loud or low.

What we have quoted, even more than what we have said, will send our poetical readers to the book.

A History of Agriculture and Prices in England, from the Year after the Oxford Parliament (1259) to the Commencement of the Continental War (1793). Compiled entirely from Original and Contemporaneous Records. By James E. Thorold Rogers, M.A. Vols. I. and II. 1259—1400. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

It is not difficult to imagine the thoughtful smile which must have passed over the face of Prof. Rogers as he read the sentences in which the most imaginative of our living historians recently advised the students of Edinburgh University to regard modern writers with suspicion, and to consult Collins's 'Dictionary of the Peerage' as the source of large and trustworthy information concerning the state of their country in the feudal period At the time of reading Mr. Carlyle's address, the Oxford Professor of Political Economy, after five years of patient research in the muniment-rooms of Merton, Queen's and New College, and in the Public Record Office, was correcting the last proof-sheets of this remarkable contribution to the history of England; and as he turned his mind from the applauded words of the eloquent and venerable lecturer to the structure and aim of his own undertaking, it is not improbable that, without any loss of confidence in the soundness of his method, he may have experienced a depressing doubt whether the times were in the humour to do justice to his labours. Of such a condition of mistrust and discouraging apprehension indications appear in the Preface, where the author observes, "I anticipate that the facts and comments contained in these volumes will attract but few readers. The form of such a work is necessarily rel ulsive, and the dry details of business transacted many centuries ago will have but little charm for the general public." In these words it is easy to catch a note of that despondency to which writers are liable when, after a period of sustained effort, they launch upon the world the result of long and anxious toil. Sometimes the despondency is justified by the consequences of publication; but on the present occasion we will venture to predict that the author will be disappointed of his neglect. We cannot think so ill of the general public as to fear that it will fail to see in this first instalment of a noble task one of the most fascinating books of modern history.

Without for a moment consenting to the author's application of the epithet "repulsive" to the form of his work, we can admit that at first sight his pages are not calculated to allure the lovers of easy reading. Comprising many hundred tables of prices,—drawn from the ela-borate farm accounts of certain great landed proprietors and wealthy corporations of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries,—the second volume looks at first sight as though it must be a prodigious compilation of all the tariffs of all the custom-houses of the civilized world; and though the first volume contains no such formidable collection of numerical charts, a hasty survey of its leaves will alarm those idlers who have a nervous dread of figures. But no sooner has the student mastered the introductory chapter, than he obtains a view of the pleasure in store for him, and sees that the author, who modestly describes himself as "an antiquary by accident," has unearthed the materials for a picture of the social life of feudal England, and knows how to handle them with effect. Though no reader with the instincts of an antiquary, or with any tincture of scholarly discernment, will be slow to see that the judicious use of such materials must necessarily produce important results, the full value of the

documents is not seen until the student recalls certain conditions of the society to which they relate.

In 1259-the date at which the Professor commences his story, because it is the earliest point of time from which he has procured a continuous chain of statistical information the bailiff system was in full action; and it remained in universal operation until the disastrous consequences of the Black Death, effecting an important revolution in the agricultural arrangements of the country, caused the great holders of land to withdraw from the business of agriculture, and let their demesnes to tenant-farmers. At the time mentioned, the ordinary manor was divided into four portions :- the lord's demesne, in close proximity to the manor-house; the land apportioned to the freeholders; the ground and tenements assigned to the villeins; and the lord's waste or common, in which all the tenants of the estate had certain rights, The demesne, or lord's reserved land, was always an important part of the manor, and in the later half of the thirteenth century it was invariably cultivated by the lord himself, or by a bailiff who acted merely as the lord's servant, and, apart from his duty to his employer, had no personal interest in the prosperity of the farm. Hence the proudest baron of that day was a farmer as well as a landlord; and usually he was a very shrewd man of business, clever at a bargain, and resolute in demanding his dues. Unlike the wealthy peers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, who regarded agriculture as a pursuit on which they could not bestow personal care without loss of caste, the nobles of the Second Richard's time farmed on a large scale and with a keen eye for profit. Through their agents they bought and sold in public market; and in the entire management of their estates they used every honest means to swell their revenues. To those who have formed their ideal of the feudal aristocracy from Scott's novels, this view of the Lancastrian and Yorkist nobles will be far from acceptable; and students of sterner stuff, whose historical knowledge has been gathered in less imaginative fields, will have to get the better of certain illusions and misconceptions before they will be in a position to believe that the habitual pursuit of petty gains marked the lives of those superb earls whom romantic fiction delights to represent as scattering largess to the poor whenever they rode forth from the gates of their castles. Hallam—a writer in no degree prone to exaggerate the picturesque features of the past—could not bring himself to believe that the commercial spirit animated the superior classes of mediæval society. Convinced that chivalric sentiment was irreconcilable with the selfishness of trade, he described the feudal nobility as incapable of enriching themselves by petty exactions, and even argues that their reluctance to appropriate the savings of their most humble dependents contributed to the gradual emancipation of the villeins. Mr. Rogers, however, places it beyond question that the feudal superior neglected "no source of income, however small," and that, when he had farmed his demesne to the best possible account, he pressed for every farthing due to him, "from the fines, quit-rents, and compositions levied on the tenants, from tolls of fairs, markets, and ferries, and from many other small sources of income, issuing, for the most part, from manorial rights." Often the payments thus exacted were very trivial; but in the aggregate they amounted to important sums that helped in no slight degree to sustain the dignity of a feudal chief.

corporations, lay or ecclesiastical, were no less | not abundant on this point, the breadth sown eager to make the most of their estates; and so long as the bailiff system was in force their concern in agricultural operations extended to every detail of husbandry. Moreover, whilst this system endured, the estates of great landholders usually lay in several counties more or less remote from each other. A great baron would hold manors on the Welsh border and the East coast, in Northumberland and the midland provinces. In addition to his Irish estates, Roger Bigod possessed manors in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Sussex, Berkshire, Glou-cester; and Mr. Rogers speaks of the lands pertaining to this earldom as constituting "the most compact, perhaps, of all the estates whose records have been preserved to the present time." The lands of Isabella de Fortibus lay in Yorkshire, the Isle of Wight, and intervening Counties. In like manner, the warden and fellows of Merton College owned land in Oxfordshire, Kent, Surrey, Bucks, Warwick, Wilts, Leicester, Cambridge, Hunts, Hants, Durham, and Northumberland. At the period under consideration, the demesne of every manor being actually cultivated by the lord's bailiff, it follows that the landowner was personally concerned in the business of farming wherever he had an estate. Roger Bigod had on his own hands at least one large farm in every county where he owned a least one large manor, and in some cases he had several large farms in a single county. Merton College tilled the soil in no less than twelve counties. But though Earl Bigod's estates were scattered over many counties, the accounts of them all were annually brought together for a simultaneous audit; and, in order that those accounts might be easily intelligible to the proprietor, they were made out upon a uniform system of weights and measures. "In Bigod's case the examination was generally done by John Bigod. the earl's younger brother, a wealthy clergyman. The Merton College audit was taken by the warden and sub-warden. In order, how ever, to an intelligible schedule of profit and loss, it was plainly essential that a uniform system of measures should be adopted." Hence, on obtaining inspection of the farm accounts of Merton College, Mr. Rogers saw the record of agricultural operations in twelve different counties, and learned the various kinds of tillage carried out in different parts of the kingdom, as well as the different degrees of prosperity experienced at the same date by the agriculturists of distant localities.

These accounts, having been kept with great minuteness, throw a flood of light on many of the darkest questions of the dark ages. By a bold, but withal a cautious, use of their data, Prof. Rogers makes calculations with regard to the population of the entire country both before and after the ravages of the Black Death. He can state with precision the diet and wages of workpeople, and criticize the relations of labour and capital at the time of Tyler's insurrection. Some of his conclusions with regard to the social condition of the inferior classes at the periods under consider-ation are novel and startling; and of these views few are more noteworthy than those which relate to the villenage of the fourteenth

century.

Not the least important of the many significant facts ascertained by Mr. Rogers is the general consumption of wheat by the lower classes of feudal England. "It will be seen," he says, "that the largest part of the land under the plough was occupied by crops of wheat, barley, and oats. Wheat was the cus-

annually would be conclusive proof. Barley was sometimes mixed with the wheat in the allowances made to farm-servants; but its chief use was in the manufacture of beer, which seems to have been brewed in small quantities, and for immediate consumption. Wheat is and for immediate consumption. Wheat is sometimes, but rarely, malted. Oat-malt is much more common. The chief use of oats was for horse-food, but oatmeal was made for the broth or porridge of the house." Having learnt that wheat was the chief article of food amongst all classes, the author goes on to compute the population of the country from the ascertained capability of the soil to produce this cereal crop. From the unassailable principle that "the rate of production in any country which imports no food, or very little food, could it be positively ascertained, is the gauge of the possible population," he argues that the maximum of agricultural productiveness in mediæval England will give us the extreme possible number of her inhabitants. Hence, since wheat was the customary food of the people, and since it may be assumed that every individual required a quarter of wheat per annum for his sustenance, it is inferred that "there were generally as many people existent in this country in the fourteenth century as there were, on an average, When it quarters of corn to feed them with." is stated that from seven to eight bushels of wheat per acre was a fair crop for good land in the fourteenth century; and that to obtain this small crop a fifth of that quantity was ordinarily expended in seed, it will be clear that Mr. Rogers shows no disposition to underrate the productiveness of the soil when he concludes "that, taking the facts of the Merton estates as a sufficient specimen of the quantity produced, an acre of wheat would have been necessary for each person's maintenance." this computation alone the reader is instructed that he may not look to mediæval society for that golden age of romantic husbandry when every rood of ground maintained its man. If every acre of land were under the plough, and every acre were enabled by some supernatural agency to produce wheat-crops year after year, without the recreative repose of periodic fallows and the support of fertilizing manure, the entire number of acres comprised by the whole area of the country would represent the number of persons able to subsist within its limits. without the assistance of imported food. Even in a miraculous golden age, each man would have required an acre instead of a rood, It remains to be asked how large a proportion of the country was under the plough in the fourteenth century.

To give an exact answer to this question is even beyond the powers of Prof. Rogers, who knows almost as much about the agri-culture of mediæval England as an ordinary English nobleman of our own days knows about the state of his fancy farm; but, instead of showing any tendency to compute at too small a number the arable acres of the fourteenthcentury farmers, he dissents from the "general impression, which must needs be vague, and is, I believe, founded solely on antecedent pro-babilities, that the area of arable land in England five hundred years ago was much less than at present." Against the large quantity of land that has been broken up and brought under the plough within the last fifty years, he sets the wide breadth of arable land that has, in these later generations, been converted into pasture, and the many acres of fertile soil withdrawn from husbandry by the rapid growth of our cities. He reminds us that the richly-wooded tomary food of the people of this country from parks and ornamental grounds that surround the earliest times. Even if the evidence were the country dwellings of our aristocracy and

minor gentry were unknown in mediæval times. when "cultivation was carried on up to the very doors of the house, the more so, perhaps, as proximity to the master's abode was an element of security for the crop," and such nobles as the Lords De Ros grew wheat-crops in the southern valley of the park of Belvoir Castle But though he is satisfied that the farmers of the fourteenth century used the plough far more extensively than most writers on the subject have imagined, he is of opinion that, under the most favourable circumstances, and in years of exceptional abundance, "the wheat produced in England five hundred years ago would not have sufficed for more than from two and a half to three millions." When all deductions have been made from this maximum of productiveness, so as to arrive at the average ability of the country to support human life, Mr. Rogers is inclined to think that the population of the entire country did not exceed one million and a half. "But whether," he adds, "the number of the English and Welch people in the fourteenth century was one and a half, or two, or even two and a half millions, it is certain that the rate of production precludes the possibility of its being more than the

highest estimate.' In so far as Mr. Rogers demonstrates that the working men of the fourteenth century were, upon the whole, far better paid and fed than the labourers of modern England, he merely supports a view which, in these later years, has been generally accepted by historical students; but he is an utterer of new things when he proves to us that the villein of the fourteenth century, instead of being the mere chattel that the law-books represent him, must have been a man endowed with legal rights and a very considerable amount of personal independence. Many traces still remained of his old servile and absolute dependence upon the will of his lord. He was liable to the restraint of a feudal superior in the exercise of common paternal rights; he was still exposed to liabilities "which to our eyes must appear outrageous invasions of personal freedom"; but he had long since ceased to be a pure slave, in the sense in which the negro workman in the Southern States of the American Republic was a slave until the other day. He was required to render services to his lord, and frequently these services were onerous; but custom had given him the right to commute the labour-rent for a pecuniary payment. Unlike the wretched farm-labourer of this generation, the serf of the fourteenth century had his cottage and piece of land, of which he held secure pos-session so long as he fulfilled his fixed duties to his superior. Nowhere has Mr. Rogers come upon evidence of a single sale of villeins or their services, although he has examined the accounts of numerous estates, in which notice is taken of infinitely small gains derived by lords from their customary rights over villeins. On this matter the author observes-

"I do not doubt that the social state of villenage existed, and that at some time or the other, in the days of the earlier Norman kings, it implied absolute dependence on the will of the lord, and a negation of all rights in land and chattels. The fact, however, that the law-books insist on the degraded state of the villain, would not, I think, be quite convincing, because it is a natural tendency of legal pedantry to speak of decaying or even extinct institutions as though they still had a vitality and vigour. For though laws may be guided by practice, it is founded on custom or both these are theoretically binding, tatute, and though really inoperative, long after a different rule has prevailed in practice. Anything like the extreme theory of villenage was, I am convinced,

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* But in the many thousand accounts which I have investigated, general, nay wellnigh universal, as is the entry of customary payments, contingent fines for licences granted to villains, penalties levied for feudal transgressions, and compensations made for customary services, all of which occur abundantly, I have never found a trace of any transfer of villains, or even of their services, to third parties. Surely if the dependence of a villain was so complete as has been generally believed, and his state was so completely a negation of rights, we should find some solitary instance of the actual sale of these unfortunates, or of some concession of their labour to others. So absolute a silence, I submit, is sufficient to prove that the legal theory of a villain's total lack of civil rights as against his lord had become antiquated before the period to which I refer, that, namely, which is treated in

In all this Mr. Rogers directly opposes Hallam, who regards the fourteenth century as "the age when a sense of political servitude was most keenly felt" in many parts of Europe, and further remarks, "Thus the insurrection of the Jacquerie in France about the year 1358 had the same character and resulted in a great measure from the same causes as that of the English peasants in 1381." To Mr. Rogers these insurrections have as little in common as two insurrectionary movements, breaking out in the same century amidst the peasantry of two feudal nations, could possibly have. The insur-rection of the Jacquerie was the desperate effort of a wretched population goaded by excessive suffering; whereas Tyler's insurrection occurred at a period of plenty, when the insurgent multitude, instead of enduring the miseries of want, were in prosperous circumstances. By sweeping away a large proportion of the people,

—a proportion which Mr. Rogers estimates at from one-third to one-half of the entire population,-the Black Death effected an unprecedented dearth of labour and a corresponding rise in the rate of wages, thus placing employers in urgent difficulty and giving the workmen who survived the pestilence an equal degree of good fortune. To reduce the exorbitant demands of labour, the remunerations of industry were fixed by royal proclamation and parliamentary enactment; but these measures were powerless to change the value of a commodity-the demand for which greatly exceeded the supply. The king was no more able to check by royal command the growing value of labour than Canute by an imperial utterance was able to check the advance of the waves. The conflict between employers and workmen continued, and became all the more acrimonious because the inferior class was victorious, whilst the landowners could not see the real source of their distress. In their impotency to procure workmen for wages beneath the market value of labour, the manorial lords must have been reluctant to accept the money-payments with which custom had empowered the villeins to liquidate the ancient claims which their feudal superiors had upon their services. The position of the contending parties unquestionably counterpress with Page 1982. tenances Mr. Rogers's suggestion as to the immediate cause of Tyler's insurrection,—" Was it not an attempt to transmute the pecuniary compensation into the labour-rent, and so revive the tenures and the labour-prices of the earlier part of the century, which led to the insurrection?"

In his chapter on "Social Distinctions and the General Distribution of Wealth," and still more fully in the chapter on "Journeys and Markets," Mr. Rogers shows that our ancestors of the fourteenth century enjoyed many inducements to and facilities for intercommunication which were greatly diminished by the Reforma-

tion, the destruction of the monasteries, and the division of the church lands amongst a number of resident proprietors. Speaking of the influence of the customary religious pilgrimages, the author observes, "The roads, however, repaired by common law at the charge of all owners of property, were in all likelihood far better than existed after the Reformation, when the necessity for easy and convenient communication was annulled by the abandonment of the custom of making these religious journeys, and by the fact that estates were more compact, and therefore the visitation of remote properties was less frequent. The monasteries, too, whose interest on many grounds was bound up with the existence of easy and safe communication, must have done their best to keep roads open and in good repair." Notwithstanding the action of trades unions in these later years, it is shown that masons and working builders were actually better paid in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, when no such combinations existed; and, on the other hand, it is shown that the persons who required the services of such artisans got far more for their money than they would get now-a-days. In 1448 Merton College built their bell-tower for a sum which represents in modern money 1,703l. 12s. 6d.; whereas such a work at this time, when the artisans are less liberally remunerated, would cost from 3,000*l*. to 4,000*l*. The profits of contractors, the greater expenses of supervision, and the trade regulations that lessen the workman's efficiency are regarded by the author as the chief causes of this prodigious increase in the price of builder's work. In another part of his work, where he shows that in the fourteenth century even the villein had his cottage and plot of ground, Prof. Rogers laments the rapid disappearance of our county freeholders, and the absorption of the land of the country into the hands of a few persons. Deploring this revolution—which is not the less fraught with peril because it is being consummated by the silent action of the law—the writer, alluding to a teacher whose voice is silent for ever, observes, "It is only a short time since that a newspaper article charged the wisest and most prudent man which this country, perhaps this nation, has ever produced, when he commented on the grievous change which we witness now, with a desire of taking the lands of the rich for distribution among the poor. It might have been retorted that for the last 300 years, still more fully for the last fifty, the lands of the poor have been taken by the rich."

In conclusion it is almost needless to observe that these volumes abound with materials of amusement for antiquaries, who take but little interest in the grander questions of history, and have no taste for the difficult problems of political science. Mr. Rogers has brought to light many words that give new interest to terms used by husbandmen. He tells us that in the thirteenth century "the second crop of grass, or aftermath, was called rewannum,"—whence, doubtless, are derived the "rawing" of our East Anglian farmers, and the "rowen" of the agriculturists of New England. Giving the prices of some horses bought for considerable sums in the thirteenth century, the writer observes, "a horse designated as a runcina was purchased at Burton for 5l. 10s. in 1262." In a note, Mr. Rogers adds, "Runcina, according to Ducange, is the rous or roux of the Romance language. In its Spanish form, rocin, it is said to signify a poor or wortbless animal. The reader will discover the term in the name which Don Quixote gives his steed."

The Critical English Testament; being an Adaptation of Bengel's 'Gnomon'. With numerous Notes, showing the Precise Results of Modern Criticism and Exegesis. Edited by the Rev. W. L. Blackley and the Rev. James Hawes. Vol. I. The Gospels. (Strahan.) Bengel's 'Gnomon' was first published in the year 1742. It is a precious book, containing much suggestive comment on the New Testament in a condensed form. The Latin words used by the writer are admirably selected, and could scarcely be improved. By translating the book into English, a few years ago, its beauty was spoilt and its utility greatly impaired. No version can do full justice to the original, and therefore the work should not be touched. Left in its original shape, it must always be prized by devout and thoughtful readers. The present editors make a mistake in translating the book once more; for no one that can read Latin will resort to their version, though it faithfully presents the 'Gnomon,' without abridgment or omission, except of arguments

based on corrupt readings.

The work before us is an adaptation of Bengel, that is, the editors profess to have incorporated the important results of modern textual criticism, especially as represented by the publications of Tischendorf, Alford, and others, which are inserted in brackets wherever required. Their first object has been to put into the hands of their readers "a lucid, concise, and reliable commentary on the teachings and the text of the New Testament."

We sympathize in every attempt to make English readers acquainted with the results of criticism on the New Testament. All depends on the manner in which any endeavour to do so is carried out. But a translation of Bengel, with various readings from Tischendorf, is not the best method that could be devised for that end; nor are the editors competent to the task, for it is plain that they have a very inadequate perception of the real wants which thinking men feel, and of the right way to supply them. Their book furnishes small evidence of their knowing the difficulties inherent in the New Testament records, or the critics who have recently handled them. The two names usually put together as authority for new readings of the text are Tischendorf and Alford. Lachmann is ignored; so are the majority of the most recent interpreters. It is well that De Wette and Meyer are used; but later, as well as acuter, critics are passed by.

and Meyer are used; but later, as well as acuter, critics are passed by.

No principle seems to have guided the selection of readings introduced. Many trifling ones are recorded, while others which are important are omitted. Thus there is abundance of remarks like these:—"Omit οἱ φαγόντες, they that had eaten. Read they were. Tisch. Alf." "Omit ὁ Ιησοῦς, Jesus, Tisch. Alf." "For λέγων αὐτοῖς, saying unto them, read καὶ ἐλεγεν, and said. Tisch. Alf." There is no allusion to the omission of Luke xxii. 44, 45, in ancient authorities, among which are A. B. R.; nor is the result of modern criticism given at John vii. 21, 22, where therefore (ἐιὰ τοῦτο) belongs to the 21st verse, not to the 22nd as it does in the received text. The editors should have furnished valuable readings only, using Lachmann and Tischendorf.

The untrustworthiness of the editors' additions may be seen from their statements that in the 21st chapter of St. John's Gospel the 24th and 25th verses are "omitted in some MSS. and generally thought to be by a disciple of the Ephesian church"; that the Sadducees "interpreted Scripture in a gross and sensual spirit"; that Meyer "places Luke before Mark": all which are incorrect. In the 5th chapter of

St. Matthew, the fourth and fifth verses of the received text should be transposed, after the most ancient and best authorities. "The the most ancient and best authorities. change is very doubtful," say the editors. No reading is more certain; Lachmann and Tischendorf rightly sanction it. The difficulties of the two genealogies in St. Matthew and St. Luke are not clearly stated, much less solved; and the fact of Cyrenius being governor of Syria at the time of a general census of the Roman empire, immediately before Christ's birth, is unnoticed, though it involves great perplexity, or, as some say, a mistake in the evangelist. No attempt is made to reconcile the Synoptists and Fourth Gospel respecting the day on which Jesus ate the Paschal supper; and the discrepancies of the Gospels, numerous as they are, are lightly touched or unnoticed. The editors ought, therefore, to have confined themselves either to a bare translation of Bengel, or to have gone more fully to work both in supplementing his exegesis and correcting the common text. An English reader having no knowledge of Greek will not learn the precise results of modern textual criticism from the present work; and he will assuredly not perceive from it the best and most recent interpretations. The title it bears, 'The Critical English Testament,' is catching, but misleading. Though far behind the present state of exeges Bengel's 'Gnomon' has still its value, but in the original Latin. Persons ignorant of Latin and Greek may find more to their purpose else-

NEW NOVELS.

Felix Holt, the Radical. By George Eliot. 3 vols. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THERE is an old midland family and estate, about which there have been many lawsuits, and some intricate secrets. The title of the present holders has derived from the questionable dealing of a long-ago owner, by which it was alienated from the direct line, but liable to revert to another line on the extinction of the original family. Mrs. Transome, the wife of the present owner, has been a beautiful, highspirited, unscrupulous woman in times past, sinning partly to please herself, and partly for the sake of her younger son. When the story opens, she is expecting back this son, after nineteen years' absence in the East. The meeting of mother and son, who have parted when he was a youth and she still a beautiful woman, is subtle in its indications. He has become a man and a merchant, an Eastern in all'his tastes and habits, and something more than a Greek in his keen business-capabilities. The character of Harold Transome is clever,-the clear-sighted, hard, unimpressionable, goodnatured man, without a fibre of sympathy, yet neither unjust nor cruel, only without feeling, except for what concerns himself. Harold Transome declares his intention to stand for the county as a Radical. The period is just after the passing of the Reform Bill; and Harold Transome, the political Radical, worldly to the tips of his fat, well-shaped fingers, yet not dishonourable, stands in contrast to the noble ideal Radical, Felix Holt. All the author's strength has been thrown into drawing this man. All the good that lay in the ascetic life of the old Roman Catholic saints has been skilfully caught; but it is dedicated to a life of selfrenunciation for the good of his fellow-men in this life, and not to the aim of his own mere personal salvation in another world. He belongs to the working class; his father has been a working-man, who invented two quack medicines, full of wonderful drugs of demoniacal

educate his only child, Felix, and to apprentice him to a doctor, his and his wife's ambition being that their son should be "a regular practitioner," and drive about in his gig. Felix having discovered, in the course of his studies, the humbug of the wonderful elixir and corresponding pills, and having also his heart opened to discern right and wrong, and to choose the right, renounces his father's profitable legacy, learns watch-making to support himself and his mother, determines to remain all his life a poor man, and to be the companion of poor men, giving up his whole life to assuage evil and ignorance, renouncing for himself all thought of personal happiness, providing him-self instead with great patience.

The contrast between the man who is a mere political Radical and the true friend and lover of working men, whose radicalism goes down to the roots of his life, is beautifully wrought out. The connecting link between the two men is Esther, the daughter of the Independent minister of the town. She is strangely connected with the fortunes of Harold, through long-past secrets of which neither are aware, until these secrets, like a long bill drawn upon Fate, come to maturity. Harold, at first, only sees in Esther a means of extrication; then he learns to love her, and through her gains an insight into better things than he had ever dreamed of in his philosophy. Felix, too, loves her; but at first sees in her a hindrance to the object to which he had dedicated his soul, and he struggles against the charm. Esther is placed between the two. She is drawn to Felix. He rouses and calls upon all that is best and strongest in her nature, and she loves him for this. Felix becomes involved in the election riot; an evil cloud envelopes him: he kills a constable by accident; it is in the effort to keep the mob from mischief; but he is thrown into prison as a ringleader. Esther, about the same time, is discovered to be the true heiress to the Transome estates. Harold behaves well; but it differs from heroism in being the conduct of a shrewd, far-sighted man, who does right for his own credit, and not because he loves nobleness. Esther's character comes out with great delicacy. She has the opportunity of accepting the worldly prosperity placed at her command, of marrying a man who is very much in love with her, and whom she likes for many things. There would have been no shame or wrong had she taken up her fortune; with some truth she might have leavened the sophistry of thinking it her destiny. But she has had a glimpse of a higher love and a better life; she knows this would be the meaner choice, though by no means sure that she would ever obtain any reward if she rejected it, for Felix has told her his resolve never to marry. This portion is worked out with great skill, blending with the main plot, and coloured by a hundred hues of passing incident and emotion. If Esther is for awhile bewildered. she holds fast by the singleness of purpose which guides a man into the truth at last. She renounces her claim to the estate; refuses to marry Harold, though the element of a deep pity for a terrible sorrow that falls upon him is brought into play; and she returns to her old life with her father in Malthouse Yard. She does this because she loves Felix, and is content to abide by that fact. We can only indicate the main thread of the story. There is a very complicated plot for the groundwork, and there are numerous episodical interests connected with it. The characters are drawn with an almost Shakspearean variety and truth to nature. The election scenes are full of humour, and the market-dinner at the Marquis, with its power, leaving by his will money enough to many gradations of dignity, from Mr. Wace,

the brewer, to the rich butcher from Leek Malton, "who always took the lower seat, though without the reward of being asked higher," is a drama in itself.

Mrs. Transome, with the canker at the root for the lower seat, and the seather than the control of the life points a moral to an often told the life.

of her life, points a moral to an often-told tale

the misery that follows seeking after forbidden consolation. The scene between herself and the man who has been her lover is like a scene of a tragedy acted by Rachel; no woman will read it without a shiver. "There is," says the author, "seldom any wrong-doing which does not carry along with it some downfall of blindly-climbing hopes, - some hard entail of suffering, -some quickly-satiated desire that survives with the life in death of old paralytic vice to see itself cursed by its woful progeny,-some tragic mark of kinship in the one brief ripen to the far-stretching life that went before, and to the life that is to come after." We have left ourselves no space to tell of Mrs. Holt, that marvellous woman of many words,—or Lyddy the dismal, who "cries into the broth" from thinking of her sins,—or poor Tommy Trounsome, the drunken bill-sticker, with his vague ideas of belonging to the family. The workmanship of the tale is good, every incident is fitted together in its due proportion, and finished as carefully as though it were a polished corner-stone. The statement of the law matters, on which the title to the estate depends, is a miracle of lucid compression. Interesting as the story is, the wise and noble thoughts make the beauty and the worth of 'Felix Holt.'

Kissing the Rod: a Novel. By Edmund Yates, 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

THE fourth novel which Mr. Yates has published within one year and eight months, 'Kissing the Rod,' like the three earlier tales, sets forth the griefs and trials of a heroine who, partly through her own fault and partly through the fault of others, is driven to cry woe on the day when first she saw her destined husband. Without shutting our eyes to the existence of a great number of unhappy marriages, we are inclined to think that Mr. Yates exaggerates the dangers of matrimony, and that by thus harping on one string he is likely to give false views to his

Moreover, on the present occasion, the compassionate defender of unhappy wives does not plead the cause of desolate and distressed ladies with his usual pathos and discretion. The unhappy and runaway wife of 'Broken to Harness' was a veritable woman, and her woe was all the more credible because it was mainly due to her own querulous and discontented nature. The shamefully-misused wife of 'Running the Gauntlet' was a gentlewoman whose virtues were so excellently portrayed that our belief in her goodness helped us a good way towards belief in the brutality of her husband. In 'Land at Last,' the miserable wife evoked such strong abhorrence by her crimes, and roused such strong sympathy for the victims of her wickedness, that whilst the novel was being read she imposed herself as a barely possible prodigy of sin on the reader's excited imagination. But no one can believe in the existence of Katharine Guyon, the heroine of the present tale, - who marries a rich bill-discounter without loving him; who after the fashion of the heroine in 'Broken to Harness,' first runs from, and is then reconciled to, her peccant husband; and who, like the wronged wife of 'Running the Gauntlet,' is freed from her bondage by the sudden death of her master. The contradictions and inconsistencies that mark the delineations of all the persons who in any way influence Kath rine, increase the difficulties of the reader, who conscientiously

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labours to think of her as a real human creature. She is said to be the daughter of a man of fashion, and to move in a very fashionable set of West-End idlers; but when the reader is introduced to her social circle, he finds it a dissipated, shabby, debt-encumbered clique of noisy, fast-living people, whose sole connexion with the world of fashion is their tenancy of houses in a fashionable quarter of town. It is a society in which Israelitish money-lenders and uproarious brokers are received with open arms. Ned Guyon, the heroine's papa.—who is everywhere mentioned as a man of indubitable fashion, although of scandalous immorality, and walks about town with "his usual easy swagger,"-is the obsequious toady of complaisant bill-discounters, and on selling his daughter to Bob Streightley, an odious City man, hastens to suck from his rich son-in-law man, hastens to suck from his rich son-in-law the means for gratifying his grossly vicious tastes. It cannot be that Mr. Yates attri-butes "fashion" to all persons who live west of Regent Street, and are rich enough to give good dinners? His haste with re-gard to "county society" is not less remark-able. Having married Ned Guyon's lovely daughter to a plebeian bill-discounter, and placed them in an old county hall, which Bob Streightley has obtained in the way of his business, Mr. Yates represents the young couple as being forthwith recognized by the aristocratic families of the neighbourhood. With society of a different kind the same want of familiarity is displayed by the writer, who speaks of "Mr. Toesin, Q.C., the celebrated Old Bailey barrister," as though the more conspicuous members of the Old Bailey bar were, in the ordinary course of things, wearers of silk. If 'Kissing the Rod' may be relied on, the world of fashion looks with no unfavourable eye upon the Old Bailey bar. But Mr. Yates makes a still more comic slip concerning the ways and habits of lawyers when he puts Charles Yeldham on the highest floor of a Temple staircase. Sharing a set of chambers with Gordon Frere, a young Templar, who bears a close resemblance to our old friend, Arthur Pendennis, Charles Yeldham is the beneficent, self-denying, heroic, wifeless "good fellow" of the tale. The counterpart of George Warrington in temper and style, Charles Yeldham holds himself aloof from literature, and is a hard-working and very successful conveyancer, whose professional engagements are so oppressive that he never indulges in more than five and a half hours of sleep out of every twenty-four. This "celebrated convey-ancer" does not only use the garret chambers as his residential quarters, but he works in them. His clients toil up to the "highest story" to consult him; he has no clerk's room or clerk; he has no pupils' room or pupils. Before Mr. Yates again tries his hand at a description of Temple life, he should take counsel's opinion on one or two matters. Above all, he should take counsel from friends who were neither slow nor cold in recognizing the merits of his earlier stories, and who sincerely regret the imperfec-tions of his present book. He clearly stands in need of repose, and we urge him to rest now, so that he-and we-may be thankful for better work hereafter.

A Skeleton Novel; or, the Undercurrent of Society. By Grace Webster. In Three Sections. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.)

Miss Grace Webster is one of those novelists who like to lay down rules for the guidance of a friendly critic of which work assured the less-experienced artists, and to state authoritatively what fiction may and what it may not do. "One object of fiction," says the lady, "should be to correct foibles of character and Grace Webster is a passport for any work that itself about prosecuting him." It is calculated that the peculations of the conductors employed by the General Omnibus Company amount to 25,000l. a year. For the most part the conductors are not drawn from the superior grades of the working classes, and, though they are

would be unsuitable to touch upon in graver codes of morals,"—whereby we are led to suppose that Miss Webster regards a well-written novel as a light or jocular code of morals. In another passage of her introductory essay, where she seems to teach that romantic fiction should avoid repulsive topics, she remarks, "But to describe the mode in which savage men deprived each other of life in their warfare, spoils the feast of life to peaceful people, and is like the vitiated taste which sometimes prompts unpolite individuals to explain a surgical operation at a dinner-table." Digby King, a conspicuous personage of the novel, is not an unpolite individual; but his career in London is sadly immoral. Of his first entrance into the capital, the writer observes, "The mania of the Crystal Palace broke out among the British public, and Digby set out in quest of adventures in the metropolis of the world." We have heard of the South Sea mania, the railway mania, and of a score other outbreaks of national frenzy; but we now for the first time learn that the British public suffered under a Crystal Palace mania. The novelist continues, "Unprincipled fellows often have a run of what is called good luck. He made his way into the Crystal Palace with success." We have known a good many fellows, of every shade of morality and immorality, accomplish the same remarkable feat. "An opportunity," the story proceeds to say, "occurred of his doing a polite and ready-minded service, which prevented a slight accident to a distinguished-looking lady, by the overturn of a pedestal and porcelain vase." Having thus prevented a slight accident, the adventurer turned the occurrence to his advantage. "The lady happened to be the wife of a knight, the head physician of the Duke of N.—, and Digby called upon her next day to inquire how her ladyship was after the fright, and he led her to understand that he was a first cousin of Sir Giles Sutton by the female side,—a circumstance which the physician's lady fully credited, and had no opportunity nor wish of disputing the fact." It may be presumed that the Duke of N——was mad, as he thus retained the services of a "head physician"; but the readiness with which the lady was imposed upon by the adventurer raises a doubt as to the doctor's skill in cases of mental infirmity. Had he been a discreet and cautious practitioner, the head physician would surely not have allowed his flighty wife to be at large in the Crystal Palace at a period of general excitement. But we have no wish to bear hardly on the head physician. Our chief concern is for the adventurer's victim, "a beautiful orphan girl, the daughter of a deceased navy officer," whom Digby King met at the head physician's house, and, by force of his pretended relationship on the female side to Sir Giles Sutton, induced to become his wife. Her sad case is the more deplorable because she was such a charming young person. Readers are informed, "While Digby was telling the most egregious falsehoods to the amiable young creature at his side, she looked sweetly in his face and sighed. She believed implicitly every face and signed. She believed implicitly every word he was saying, but she was not sure if she felt quite happy. Octavia was a good girl; she had the fear of God in her heart, the fruits of genuine piety were apparent in her deportment." From a list of Miss Webster's literary achievements appended to this volume, we learn that she once wrote a book about pious deportment, a friendly critic of which work assured the

absurdities in dress and manner, which it comes forth under her auspices." Dr. Chalmers would be unsuitable to touch upon in graver codes of morals,"—whereby we are led to suppose that Miss Webster regards a well-written with the work of places and destinations. We have heard of a writer's name being a passnovel as a light or jocular code of morals. In

The Caudine Forks—[Les Fourches Caudines, par Amédée Achard]. (Hachette & Co.)
"The Caudine Forks," as the well-instructed school-boy, and all others who have not forgotten their schooling, know, was that incident in one of the old Roman wars against the Samnites, about the year 321 R.C., when the whole Roman army, passing along a narrow defile, found themselves caught as in a trap, and, being obliged to capitulate, were forced by their enemies to pass between the forks of a yoke or gallows set up for the purpose, and called the "Caudine Forks," because the disgrace was endured not far from Caudium. The term has since been adopted to express any painful compromise under inextricable difficulties. M. Amédée Achard's new novel relates to the difficulties of a woman who, having once done wrong, cannot retrace her steps, and has to ransom herself with her happiness, and ultimately with her life, from her false position. It is a clever novel, written with an honourable aim; and, though it lies amongst matrimonial incidents which an English author would feel bound to treat less as a matter of course than French authors do, the moral is good, and, wonderful to say of a moral French novel, it is interesting, and the treatment is fresh.

Our Social Bees. Second Series. By Andrew Wynter, M.D. (Hardwicke.)

Drawing his facts from books and men, Dr. Wynter writes in an attractive style upon a variety of social questions; and though his brief, lively, gossiping essays will not satisfy persons seeking for copious and exact information respecting the matters taken into consideration, they will be read with pleasure, if not with improvement, by the numerous class of intelligent idlers who, though they shrink from the labour of systematic inquiry into the mysteries like to know a little and to talk the mysteries like to know a little and to talk much about the superficial phenomena of life. Having no connexion, save that for which they are indebted to the binder, the papers speak in turn of Insurances, Omnibuses, Water-supply, Furniture, Horse-flesh, Cookery, Sweetmeats, Butcher's Meat, City Companies, Old Clothes, Centenarians, Lifeboats, Trichiniæ, Precious Stones, and Lucifer Matches. In his notes concerning the General Omnibus Company the cerning the General Omnibus Company the writer tells us: "The average earnings per day of each omnibus is 2l. 15s. 10d.; but in summer it often amounts to 4l. When there is any great variation from this average in the wrong direction, the 'check' is put on to find out if any rection, the 'check' is put on to find out if any roguery is taking place on the part of the conductor; whether, in fact, he is 'helping himself,' as the driver observed. The check is a female spy, generally a well-dressed woman, who rides the long journey—for all omnibus routes are now divided into two or three short routes and one long one—and her duty is to take count of the number of long and short riders, which is then privately compared with the conductor's own route-paper or way-bill. If his payment falls short of the real number carried, he is not 'required any more,' the company never troubling itself about prosecuting him." It is calculated that the peculations of the conductors employed

required to produce recommendations of some sort before they are received into the service of the Association, they are too often incorrigible thieves. When servants can obtain false characters for a shilling each, a clever scoundrel can, without much difficulty, spring from the threshold of the London prison, from which he has been liberated, to the foot-board of a London

Dr. Wynter's accumulations of figures would be more impressive if they were not diversified with conspicuous blunders; and we should be more often ready to accept his conclusions if he had forborne to give his reasons for forming them. In some places his statements of fact, in other places his generalizations, are open to objection. For instance, the paper on "Longevity" contradicts biography, and defies logic in a most remarkable manner. "It is," observes the Doctor, "also a matter of daily remark, that great lawyers attain to a long age. Within our own memory, three law lords-Eldon, Stowell, and Lyndhurst—passed their ninetieth year."
So far as Lord Eldon is concerned, this statement is erroneous; for the great Tory Chancellor was born on the 4th of June, 1751, and died on the 13th of January, 1838. "We apprehend, however," continues the author, "that much of this connexion of great age with great offices is patent enough to life-actuaries. Lawyers, for instance, are not appointed to the great offices of State until they have passed all the more dangerous epochs of human life, and when the chances of existence are materially enhanced." Far from this being invariably the case, a list could be made of lawyers who were still young men when they became judges. Lord Chancellor Cowper held the seals when he was forty-one years of age; Francis Buller was a Justice of the King's Bench before he had completed his thirtythird year. One of the decidedly "dangerous epochs of human life" divides middle age from old age, and this critical period—in which so many active lives find their termination-has seldom been encountered by judges when they were promoted to judicial rank. Fifty years seems to be about the average age of the English lawyer when he exchanges a leading place at the bar for a seat on the Bench. But several of our living judges won their seats at an earlier age; Baron Martin was only forty-nine when he became a puisne in his father-in-law's court. Sir James Plaisted Wilde was born in 1816, and became a Baron of the Exchequer on April 13, 1860. No one of the three venerable lawyers specially mentioned by Dr. Wynter had passed middle age when he became a judge of the land. Lord Stowell became Judge of the High Court of Admiralty when fifty-three years of age; but at the time of his entrance into that office he had presided for several years in the Consistory Court; Lord Eldon was Chief of the Common Pleas in the opening of his forty-ninth year, and Chancellor before he was fifty; Lord Lyndhurst was a rather old man for a newly appointed Chancellor, but he mounted to the woolsack before he had completed his fiftysixth year. Judicial longevity may be readily traced to its real cause by any one who is aware that no man can be a permanent success at the Bar unless he has an exceptionally strong constitution.

Widening his field of observation, and speaking of famous men of all kinds, Dr. Wynter adds, "At the same time it must be conceded that great fame of an enduring character must be dependent on prolonged vitality"; and in support of this ridiculous theory he refers to the many instances of longevity amongst the ranks of notable men. Surely Dr.

has no enduring fame, or that his fame was a consequence of longevity. The doctor speaks of the long lives of Young and Wordsworth, but is silent about the premature deaths of Shelley and Byron. He mentions Newton, and passes over Davy without a word. If "great fame of enduring character must be dependent on longevity," the first Napoleon was no famous man; for he did not attain to old age, and he had played out his dazzling game before he had completed his forty-seventh year. In like manner our Wellington cannot be placed amongst men of enduring fame, for his military career, -on which his renown altogether depends. like Napoleon's, closed at Waterloo. Nelson was forty-eight years old at the time of his death. After bringing together his names of celebrated men who lived to advanced periods of old age Dr. Wynter does not seem to have asked himself how many of the notable persons would have been just as famous had they died in middle life. Lord Brougham is at the present time the veteran of our famous men; but far from being indebted to longevity for his reputation, he made his name and place in history more than a full generation since. Scott died within the bounds of middle age; but had his career been still more brief by ten good years it would not have been less illustrious. Had he expired before the close of his fiftieth year he would all the same have left us his poems and his best novels: 'Waverley,' 'Guy Mannering, 'The Antiquary,' 'The Heart of Midlothian,' 'The Bride of Lammermoor,' 'Ivan-The author of 'Our Social Bees' must modify his views on this subject,

Denmark in the Early Iron Age, illustrated by Recent Discoveries in the Peat Mosses of Sles-vig. By Conrad Engelhardt, late Director of the Museum of Northern Antiquities at

Flensborg. (Williams & Norgate.)
This volume places before us a mass of facts of considerable interest to the antiquaries of our country, and well worthy of their careful study. Among the numerous deposits of antiquities discovered in various parts of South Jutland, or Slesvig, two have especially attracted the attention of archeologists, found respectively in the peat-mosses of Thorsbjerg and Nydam. They were excavated during the summers of the years 1858 to 1863, at the expense of the Danish Government, under the direction of Mr. Conrad Engelhardt, who was known in Denmark as an antiquary. He had com-pleted the exploration of the first of these mosses, and was engaged in that of Nydam, when his labours were interrupted by the Austro-Prussian invasion in 1864, and he was obliged to withdraw from the conquered province, and leave his excavations to be continued by others. He complains that they were "undertaken by German princes and by a Prussian baron, and do not seem to have been carried on with the necessary care and intelligence." Engelhardt published an account of his researches in Danish, but the present work is a translation, we believe much enlarged, with the excellent plates which were executed in Conenhagen.

The great value, indeed, of the volume before us consists in the numerous and excellent engravings of the various objects found in the two peat-mosses of Thorsbjerg and Nydam. These consist of articles of greatly varied character. In the moss of Nydam were found the remains of three well-made boats; one of which, of oak, was seventy-seven feet long, by nearly twelve broad, and had rests for twenty-eight oars; another was of fir; the oak boat had Wynter does not mean to say that Shakspeare | been pierced with holes, and evidently sunk

deliberately and intentionally. A few atticles of wearing apparel in the moss of Thorsbjerg. including two cloaks, each made of a square piece of woollen cloth; a kirtle, and two pairs of long trowsers, also of woollen cloth; a leather sandal, with ornaments, which Mr. Engelhardt calls "quasi-Roman" in style; and fragments of other sandals, and scraps of woollen cloth. In both mosses were found a wooden cloth. In both masses were to that a considerable number of personal ornaments and articles of the toilet, such as fibula, two silver clasps, one set with blue glass buttons, beads of agate and of glass or vitrified porcelain; finger and other rings, many of which were found in fragments, which Mr. Engel-hardt considers to have been "cut to pieces in order to serve as ring-money"; pendents for the ears; tweezers of bronze and silver; combs of bone, &c. A die of amber, the numbers on which are marked by concentric circles, was found at Thorsbjerg. Among the arms of defence are coverings for the head, some of which are pronounced to be Roman; fragments of chainarmour and breastplates; shields. Of offensive weapons we have many swords, most of them damascened in various patterns; lances and javelins; bows and arrows, and a number of fragments which have belonged to straps and girdles, mountings of the arms, &c. We may further enumerate bridles, bits, and portions of horse-trappings, found in great number, and fragments of waggons; some remains of agricultural implements; a large number of objects of domestic use, including pottery; a few Roman coins; and a still smaller number of the rude imitations of Roman coins which our antiquaries have termed minimi; with objects of various descriptions, the use of which it would be difficult to define.

Various theories have been hazarded by the northern antiquaries to explain why these different objects were deposited in such a manner in what are now peat-mosses; but none of these theories are quite satisfactory. The most plausible explanation yet suggested seems to us to be that which supposes the moss to re-present a former sacred lake, into which these objects were thrown as offerings to the deities to whom the lakes were sacred. In fact, it is stated that these articles appeared in most cases to have been thrown in in bundles, which had been wrapped up in skins or in pieces of cloth, and that many of them must have been sunk in the boats. We might suppose, indeed, that they may have formed a share of the plunder from warlike expeditions, set apart as an offering to the gods. The latest of the small known Roman coins which have been found in Slesvig belongs to the earlier part of the third century, and from this circumstance Mr. Engelhardt (and the other Danish antiquaries, as we suppose) ascribes all this class of antiquities to the third century A.D., and makes out of them what he calls the early iron age. Our northern friends, not satisfied with their first simpler invention of stone age, bronze age, and iron age, now split these into sub-divisions, and they insist upon an early iron age, a transition iron age, and a late iron age, the last of which they appear to make contem-porary with our Anglo-Saxon graves of the pagan period.

We are not, however, inclined to accept the date which Mr. Engelhardt gives to these antiquities. In the first place, the argument deduced from the coins is a very deceptive one. A coin, of itself, is only evidence of date in one direction; it cannot have been deposited before the reign of the Emperor by whom it was struck, but it may have been deposited there at any subsequent period, and we have no right to assume, without external evidence, an exact date. The

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Roman money was not called in from circulation to substitute a new currency in its place; contrary, who settled within the limits of the lation to substitute a new currency in its place; but the coins of all the Emperors continued in circulation, not only during the whole Roman period in the West, but for many ages afterperiod in the west, but for many ages after-wards. It was, no doubt, in common use in England under the Anglo-Saxons. The latter, of course, took what they found in circu-lation, and added the various deposits of older times which they were continually dig-ging up from the ground, and those furnished them with coins of every period. A large proportion of the money they found in circulation belonged to the Constantine family, because a much larger quantity of that money appears to have been thrown into circulation in Britain than have been thrown into circulation in Britain than of any other Emperor. When we find Roman coins in an Anglo-Saxon grave, they are some-times from the mints of the earlier Emperors. It is only when we find, which is not unfrequently the case, a hoard of Roman money, containing a great number of the coins current at the time was made, that we are justified in supposing that the hoard was made and laid by not long after the date of the latest coin in it, merely because we can hardly suppose that a man collecting so many coins in such a manner should not have got one or two of the later, if not the Latest, coins in circulation. If all the coins Mr. Engelhardt enumerates as having been found in Slesvig had been found in one deposit, they would not prove that that deposit was made immediately after the date of the latest of them. We must, therefore, look for evidence of the date of these antiquities to other characteristics rather than to the Roman coins, and we think that the evidence thus obtained is much stronger than the other.

To any one who possesses a solid and comprehensive knowledge of archæology these Slesvig antiquities present a strongly-marked analogy to those of our own Anglo-Saxon remains of the Pagan age, that is, of the period from the fifth to the seventh century. There is exactly the same mixture of objects, and of the same classes of objects, purely Roman with the same classes of objects, purely koman with others which are of Teutonic character, and with others again which present a debased Roman character, or are imitated from Roman. The latter is that kind of debasement which came on when pure Roman Art was becoming extinct, and answers in every respect to the similar debasement in the Eastern Empire which produced the style called Byzantine. It is exactly the same mixture which is found in the remains deposited in the Frankish cemeteries, and in the Alemannic or German graves. Now this mixture we can easily, and no doubt correctly, explain. When the "barbarians" invaded, and either settled in or withdrew from the Roman provinces, they took possession, as legitimate plunder, of every object on which they set any value, and among these were especially articles made of the precious metals, personal ornaments, and household utensils, and anything they could use with advantage. Coined money thus formed probably the least part of the plunder which was carried away,
—because, on the one hand, it was of little comparative use to the invaders, and would, perhaps, be only taken as an object of curiosity, while, on the other, people would bury and conceal their money the moment they found themselves exposed to invasion. Thus we see that the northern peoples, although they were acquainted with Roman coins at the period to which these Slesvig antiquities belonged, understood so little their use, that they never attempted to imitate them and make a coinage of their own until the eleventh century after Christ. The same may be said of the German peoples who did not establish themselves within

Roman province of Gaul, learned the use of money, and, in imitation of that of the Romans, created a coinage of their own. Such also was the case with the Anglo-Saxons in Britain. In the latter country especially, a debased Roman coinage, rude copies or imitations of Roman coins, had already come into circulation, appa-rently struck by the towns when experiencing the want of a small currency, and belonging, no doubt, to the very close of the Roman period. There was in Britain, between the end of the Roman rule and the conquest of the Anglo-Saxons, a period of independence of some kind or other, in which the towns, Roman in character and government, played the principal part. When a nation is sinking into political misfortune, money becomes scarce, because there is a general anxiety to gain possession of it and a tendency to hoard it up and conceal it; and after the withdrawal of the imperial authority, the void thus created could no longer be filled up by importations from Gaul. It appears to have been under these circumstances that the towns in Britain issued these small rude copies of the old Roman coins. Two debased coins of this description, found in two different localities, and enumerated by Mr. Engelhardt among his Slesvig antiquities, clearly point to this period, and lead us to regard these antiquities as be-longing to nearly the same age as the Anglo-Saxon antiquities of the graves,—that is, to ascribe them to the fifth or sixth century, rather than to the third. Our antiquaries have not yet turned the period of the Anglo-Saxon ceme-

We have not space here to enter into a discussion of the different objects of antiquity brought together in this volume, nor could we do it effectually without engravings. We must, however, remark, that in general character they are quite identical with the antiquities found in our Anglo-Saxon graves, and that the numerous articles which are undoubtedly Roman appear to us to be mostly late, and some of them debased Roman. The swords are identical in general character with our Anglo-Saxon swords, and we should be almost inclined to say more German than Danish. They are identical in character, also, with those found in the Frankish and Alemannic graves. We may add, that they appear to be identical with those which some of our own antiquaries have recently, we believe wrongly, called "late Celtic." Curiously enough, some of them have the name of the maker stamped upon them at the base of the blade, or on the spike which held the handle, in Roman letters. and exactly in the same formula as on the Roman Samian ware—on some examples here engraved we have icim, i.e..... ici manu (the first letters of the name are lost); on another we have what appears to have been cocillus F, i. e. Cocillus fecit. Cocillus, or Coccillus, occurs among the names of potters on the Samian ware. Perhaps the seat of the manufacture of these swords was the Rhenish provinces. On some of the objects collected in the peat-mosses of Slesvig the name, apparently of the owner, is engraved in Runic characters, which again, we believe, points more clearly to the fifth or sixth century than to the third. A similar Runic inscription is found on the silver hilt of an Anglo-Saxon sword taken from a grave in East Kent, and now in the Rolfe collection, preserved in the museum of Mr. Mayer at Liverpool. The pottery, also, is quite identical with that of the Anglo-Saxons, Franks and Germans.

The objects brought before us in this volume are suggestive of many remarks for which we have not room. Mr. Engelhardt's plates are have not room. Mr. Engelhardt's plates are extremely valuable,—in fact, by far the most ture for the sun." But, as he tells us, "There

valuable part of the book. The text is valuable also, in so far as it is an honest description of also, in so far as it is an indiest description of the objects found, for we place entire faith in its truthfulness. But we differ much from its author in opinion with regard to their character and date; and we regret that the book has for its title 'Denmark in the Early Iron Age.'

The Trilogy; or, Dante's Three Visions. Part III. Paradiso; or, the Vision of Paradisa. Translated into English Verse, in the Metre and Triple Rhyme of the Original, with Notes and Illustrations. By the Rev. John Wesley Thomas. (Bohn.)

The Paradise is the crowning glory of the Divina Commedia. All the readers of Dante who get into Paradise desire to remain there, and well they may; it is the reward of their perseverance in the "diritta via," the recompense of their deserving pilgrimage. In that blessed communion of saints they obtain a foretaste of spiritual joy, and naturally wish to retain a permanent relish for such good society. It is true, it is only an ideal condition and state of the elect, as such descriptions must needs be; but it is the best and most complete that imagination has devised, is devoid of vulgarity, and is drawn from a divine rather than garry, and is drawn from a divine rather than a human point of view. There are no athletic sports, nor eating and drinking, nor "plains of heaven" on which celestial warriors are marshalled in order of battle, as our Milton describes; but there is the most exquisite music, there are celestial dances, and sights to charm alike the eye of sense and of the mind; the soul is filled with enjoyment to its utmost capacity, nor will the organs of the new body be without full contentment, though this is stated in a general way-

Chè gli organi del corpo saran forti A tutto ciò che potrà dilettarne.

Dante also follows the *dicta* of the Church, so that his account is at once perfectly orthodox as well as eminently poetic. Paradise is essentially a poetic subject; its very name is suggestive of Persian poetry, and is redolent of the exquisite fragrence of choicest flowers and fruits. It is the garden of the soul, as cultivated intellectually: the abode of angels and peri, as looked at through symbols, figures and tropes.

The pen of Dante has transformed it into the Christian heaven, where the celestial court takes the form of a full-blown rose, of which the beati are the petals, and the Holy Trinity, "nel giallo," the fructifying organs, symbolically.

To quote the translation of the author:—

Thus marshall'd in the form of a white rose,
The saintly armament was shown to me,
The spouse of Christ, which to his blood she owes.

The atmosphere of this flower is ventilated by angels' wings; these divine creations of the poetic fancy, for it is a mistake to suppose that they have a Biblical origin, fly about from the flanks to the centre and from the centre to the flanks :-

Like trooping bees that from the hive now rove
And plunge in flowers, then soar and homeward wend
To where their labours into sweets improve,
Into that vast and brilliant flower descend
Which had so many leaves, then to the abode
Where ever dwells their love they re-ascend.

Their business is to carry peace and love from leaf to leaf, from saint to saint; and though they fly to and fro in swarms, yet such is the mar vellous quality of the divine light in that blessed region that no impediment to vision is thereby occasioned. Their general appearance surpasses the whiteness of snow, their wings are golden, and their faces like living flame. By especial grace, Dante is enabled to perceive the extent of this celestial court, though its circumference

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near and far make vision neither more nor less! distinct; for where God governs by Himself alone, the laws of Nature are of no account,"a very important theological principle, but one that must not be forced upon terrestrial phe-

If, however, the Paradise of Dante were merely descriptive of the notions which the poet had formed of a future state of blessedness, and of the souls supposed to inhabit it, grand and beautiful as the allegory would be, it would still be wanting in that which gives to the production its highest value. Those profound views of order in the divine government, and those unchanging principles of truth and righteousness, which Dante so repeatedly insists upon and unfolds, that constitute, and ever will constitute, the great philosophic and moral charm of this inestimable work, would be absent, and the purpose which the poet sought to effect by his Divina Commedia would no longer be shown. This purpose was, in his own words, "to remove the living from the state of misery, and to lead them to a state of happiness." The highest lessons in this wisdom were reserved for the Paradise; it is here that Dante admits us to the inner circle of his well-stored mind, and in floods of eloquence that truly seem inspired, pours into our attentive ears the streams of that living water which he had been privileged so copiously to imbibe-

—l' acqua onde la femminetta Samaritan dimandò la grazia.

In the first lesson which Dante receives from his divine guide, Beatrice, he is informed that "all things have order among themselves, and this it is which makes the universe resemble God." (Pard. i. 103-5.) This law of order, we are subsequently told, not only governs those creatures which are without intelligence, but those which have both intellect and love (118-120). Order is the foundation of Dante's system, both in the physical and spiritual world. The principle is propounded in clear and precise words, without the ambiguity which versification in English terza rima entails upon its votaries .--

Le cose tutte quante Hann' ordine tra loro ; e questo è forma Che l' universo a Dio fa simigliante.

Nè pur le creature, che son fuore D'intelligenzia quest' arco saetta, Ma quelle c' hanno intelletto ed amore.

Which the author thus renders :-

A principle of order blends With all things, and this law of symmetry To the whole universe God's likeness lends.

This bow projects not only those who rove, Creatures devoid of reason, but indeed Those who possess both intellect and love.

Possibly there may be a misprint here; the verb subjects for "projects" would be nearer the text. During the progress of this great poem, Dante's opinions, or convictions, in some things underwent a change; as he proceeded his mind became more enlightened and enlarged, so that in Paradise he is enabled to discern more clearly, and to express more correctly, the operation of the divine laws. He has freed himself from the thraldom of clerical dogmas, and his Christianity flows in a purer stream, as from the fountain-head. It is always very instructive to gather Dante's opinions on all subjects, but more especially on those which concern the soul and its operations. He is truly here "il maestro di color che sanno"; and even in some matters of physical science his ideas were in advance of the age in which he lived. It has been held up to the admiration of our own time, that the grand result of the vast progress of physical knowledge has been "the firm establishment of the great principle of

in nature." But Dante laid down this principle as the basis of the universe more than five hundred years before.

In 1859 the Rev. John Wesley Thomas published a translation of Dante's Inferno; this was followed up, in 1862, by a translation of the Purgatorio, which he dedicated to Garibaldi and the people of Italy. Garibaldi acknowledged the compliment, and returned thanks in a short, appropriate letter. This the author prints in his Preface to the present which is dedicated to the memory of departed friends and relatives. There is also a sonnet to the memory of a beloved daughter who died during the progress of the work, at the age of twenty-five, and whom he associates in Paradise with Dante's Beatrice.

This volume, like its predecessors, is very fully illustrated with notes; the same care and pains have been bestowed upon it, and we congratulate the author on having reached his proposed goal so successfully. He has, to use a former expression of his own, rang out "a chime on the bells of eternity," which cannot fail to be listened to with pleasure by English readers. Some of his verses are felicitous renderings of the original, -others might be improved.

The following extract from the seventh canto will show the character of his translation. It

relates to the Atonement, of which Beatrice gives the professed ragione .gives the professed rayone.—
He whose bright stamp the universe displays,—
The Sovereign Bounty,—in restoring Man,
Chose therefore to proceed in both his ways.
Nor has there been by either, nor e'er can,
From Nature's birth till darkness hides her grave
So lofty and magnificent a plan.
God seem'd more bounteous when himself he gave,
That Man might for his own relief avail.
Than had his mere decree sufficed to save.

That Man might for his own relief avail.
Than had his mere decree sufficed to save.
And every other mode would wholly fail
For justice due, had not the Son of God
Humbled himself to wear a fleasily veil.
Now I resume a former episode:
In every point fulfilling thy desire,
That thou mayat see it, as to me 'tis show'd.
Thou sayat, 'I see the water, air, and fire,
And earth, and all the mixtures they endure,
Become corrupt, nor long remain entire;
And that they were created we are sure.
If then my speech and truth maintain consistence,
These from corruption should be quite secure.
The angels and this land of pure subsistence,
O brother, were created, we may say,

The angels and this land of pure subsistence,
O brother, were created, we may say,
Even as they are, in their complete existence:
But all the elements named, and that array
Of substances which from them have been made,
By a created virtue form'd are they.
Created was the matter thus display'd;
Created was the matter thus display'd;
Created was the informing round in light array'd.
The souls of brutes and of all plants begin
From rays and motions of those holy fires,
Whence they their active powers and habits win.
Our life Supreme Beneficence inspire inflamed,
So that theneforth it ever Him desires.
A further inference may here be named,—
Your resurrection,—if by thee be weigh'd
How human fiesh was by its Maker framed,
What time our primal parents first were made.

What time our primal parents first were made

Dante's opinions on the generation of souls and their qualities, follow those of the Arabian commentators on Aristotle—a subject fully treated of in the Convito. The influence of the stars was then an established theory in philosophy.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE,

Wayside Flora; or, Gleanings from Rock and Field towards Rome. By Nona Bellairs. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

This little book might have been worth publishing, and even buying, if Nona Bellairs, the author, had taken the trouble of learning the elements of Botany before writing, or rather pretending to write, a Flora. All the botanical information which she attempts to give, but is really unable to convey to the readers she addresses, might have been given to the world in a magazine essay. But this supposes that she had found at Florence the Profes firm establishment of the great principle of Botany she could not hear of in Rome,—which she immutable order, and thence of universal mind does not appear to have done, for her pages show

no traces of botanical lessons. Remarks like the on a writer so flimsy may seem to be unneces severe, because thrown away upon a young lady unworthy of notice. But Nona Bellairs is worthy of notice, and of being told the wholesome truth No doubt most of her book is full of the common place which young ladies who have been to Rome write to their cousins who have not yet been; but there are a few of her descriptions of the habitate of plants so vividly done, that she might have become a successful word-painter of flower-pieces if, from a knowledge of their characters, she could but depict the flowers themselves.

Fishing Gossip. Edited by H. Cholmondeley Pennell. (Edinburgh, Black.)

THE papers composing this volume are of unequal merit; and while some are of slight texture, others are worthy of longer life than is accorded to the general run of magazine articles. Mr. Stoddarfs 'Rambles by Tweed,' Dr. Murta's 'Irish Loach Trolling,' 'Sun-spearing,' and 'Fly-fishing by Nightlight,' Mr. Ffennell's 'Early and Late Salmon District. and Dr. Günther's 'Silurus Glanis,' be safely recommended to readers who look for interest, as well as to those severer judges in wh eves interest does not suffice without instruction In fishing with worm it is of course necessary to ad the line; and there are some papers in volume which seem to have been inserted on that principle. For our own part, we prefer fly-fishing: the lower joint of the rod should be solid, to represent the matter; the line itself light and flexible, to represent the style; and the flies at once modest and sharp pointed, so as to entrap the fish and fix themselves firmly.

Erasmi Colloquia Selecta. Arranged for Translation and Re-Translation, by E. C. Lowe, D.D. (Parker & Co.)

THE Head-Master of St. John's Middle School has compiled this selection from Erasmus's Colloquier, followed by an English translation of most of the passages, to serve as a first reading-book instead of a delectus or other elementary work, which he says is a weariness to both teachers and pupils. Drudgery no doubt it is to toil through such books; but the question is, whether it is possible to get a sound knowledge of the language into the head in any other way, as a general rule. Be this as it may, we cannot think the study of a modern Latin writer so effectual a method of learning the language in its purity. Nor do we consider fables, anecdotes, or abridgments of history, however brief and bare, such tiresome reading as the strings of phrases and sentences here given, which are merely varied forms of expressing the same idea, and, though useful enough for those who are likely to write Latin composition, can be of little service to those who never get beyond a book of this sort. If the object of learning Latin were to talk it, then we could understand the advantage of using these Colloquies; but if it be to discipline the mind by the study of the language and literature in genera we think better reading-books may be found. We do not agree with Dr. Lowe, that "the main value of Latin as an instrument of mental training for boys of a middle-school is in the facilities it affords for accurate analysis, much more than in learning to 'construe.'" Nor do we think that so much is gained as lost by furnishing a translation, and thus superseding all the labour and advantage of investigation and thought. The only cases in which we approve of such help are those of feeble minds, or very backward pupils, who have little time left for learning; and even in these we accept it simply as a makeshift, excusable only under special circumstances.

The Story of the Telegraph in India. By Charles

C. Adley, C.E. (Spon.)
This narrative of the establishment and progress of the telegraph in India comes very opportunely, when a Committee of the House of Commons has been appointed to investigate the subject. Mr. Adley shows that the Indian telegraph—com-menced in October, 1851, and on which three millions of money have now been expended-has been prejudiced, and all but rendered abortive, by the injudicious monopoly of the Indian Govern-ment. Not content with adopting a blundering

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rystem,—the peculiarity of which is, that no through message can be delivered except by connecting over, and that the batteries require to be renewed weekly,—the Government actually complete the regulary authorities to advert the contraction. necting over, and that the batteries require to be renewed weekly,—the Government actually compelled the railway authorities to adopt the same system, and for a long time restricted them from sending any messages but those connected with their own works. It was not till August, 1862, that, in view of the complete collapse of the Government system, and when driven to it by the loud and angry clamours of the public, the Government declared the railway lines of telegraph to be free, and at liberty to send the messages of the public on the terms they thought best. But the affixing lines to the Government standards, so as to enable independent companies to compete for the business of the vast Indian community, is still forbidden. We agree with Mr. Adley in hoping that the Committee, of which Mr. Crawford is chairman, will give a final blow to the monopoly of the Indian Government, and open a complete free trade in telegraphy in our Eastern Empire.

The Mysteries of Isis; or, the College Life of Paul

The Mysteries of Isis; or, the College Life of Paul Romaine. (Oxford, Shrimpton.)

Youth and inexperience of art are strongly marked on the pages of this story, but there is an amount of spirit in it which leads us to expect better things from the author. At present he is content to try his hand in a great many styles, and to remind us in turn of a great many novelists. It can hardly have failed to strike him—it must strike the least retentive readers—that the incident of the disgraced Oxonian going on the stage is an idealized version of the adventures of Nicholas Nickleby. Who does not think of Mr. Crummles, his real tub, and his French pieces, when he reads, "Now I've got a lot of old armour that I bought a bargain the other day, and I want to work it in somehow. Can't you try something mediæval?

You'll find a lot of French rubbish which I sent over to Mortimer's lodgings the other day. Perhaps they'll help you if you can read French." As for the usual Oxford scenes, the town and gown row, the Phlegethon Club, the scene with the Dons, the examination where one man gets a "First" and a brain fever, we have heard and read of them so often that we know all the details without giving any more credence to the whole. These things form part of the Oxford tradition, and are handed down to all freshmen as tradition, and are handed down to all freshmen as parts of what every Oxonian must know and be-lieve. And therefore, when a man tries to write an Oxford story, he confuses what he has seen with what he has heard,—the real life of Oxford, which, under great show of fastness, is extremely mild, and the traditional life which must have been lived by a race of intellectual athletes coupling recent by a race of intellectual athletes, equally regardless of laws human and divine, that is to say, the Proctors and the University sermon. It is probably the result of the intense conservatism which prevails at Oxford that a certain false tone is always kept up among the men after having once been introduced in fiction: or else the native chivalry of Oxford is such that even caricatures of Oxford life are rewarded; for when 'Verdant Green' came out, and was pooh-poohed by old Oxonians as utterly untrue, young Oxford not only accepted it, but conformed to its standard. Whether the result of conservatism or chivalry, this sort of affectation is one of the causes of the general failure of Oxford stories; though perhaps the chief cause is, that the writers whose memories are fresh are still freshmen in literature, and those who have gained experience in literature have forgotten their college experience.

The Animals Sick of the Pestilence—[Les Animaux Malades de la Peste, par Amédée Achard]. (Hachette & Co.)

(Hachette & Co.)
By taking a title from one of the prosaic misfortunes of the passing hour and fixing it upon a work of prose fiction, the author of this readable and clever story will win laughter from readers who open the book under the impression that it refers to the rinderpest. It is almost needless to say that the new test of the hould are reconstructed. the afflicted beasts of the book are some young Mr. Gladstone, who allowed him to make use of the people of both sexes, and that the murrain which attacks them is nothing worse than that old and fami-attacks them is nothing worse than that old and fami-attacks them is nothing worse than that old and fami-attacks them is nothing worse than that old and fami-attacks them is nothing worse than the them as a lower than the tenum of the control of the contr

and so few die. Of course, the natural violence of the disease is heightened in some of the cases under treatment by alarming complications with other disorders, arising from the unkindness of parents, the passions of wicked men, and the cruelty of fortune. But in every instance the sickness has the termination desired by the reader, and at the close of the novel the patients experience those keen enjoyments of convalescence which more than compensate for the sufferings of past fever. Some of the characters are artistically managed. For instance, Lucienne d'Espars, the heroine, who on a sudden reverse of fortune becomes a governess, is an excellent specimen of the well-bred and rightis an excellent specimen of the web-red and right-minded French gentlewoman; and though some of the indignities to which she is compelled to submit in the course of the tale are extremely painful to the reader, the occurrences which display her the reader, the occurrences which display her mental and moral qualities are, upon the whole, neither improbable nor otherwise objectionable. Considerable humour, also, is displayed in the portraitures of Madame de Varnesson and her husband. Like nearly all French novels, the tale contains a tigress, who creates a vast amount of mischief by her perfidy, spitefulness and diabolical malignity. In some of the later chapters, when Mdlle. Hemans is allowed full scope for the display of her evil qualities, the narrative altogether lacks the wholesomeness and natural freshness of its earlier pages; and some of the concluding incidents, such as M. de Varnesson's sudden death, and Octave's sudden acquisition of wealth, are mere commonplaces of melo-dramatic romance. Upon the whole, however, the novel is greatly superior to the average of its kind in tone and art. We do not think Mr. C. Bilton, B.A. has always made the best choice of materials for his

always made the best choice of materials for his Repetition and Reading Book for Pupil-Teachers and the Upper Classes of Schools; consisting of Prose and Poetry from the best English Authors (Longmans & Co.).—Extracts from periodicals and leading articles of newspapers are scarcely suitable for purposes of education; nor are passages from novels much more appropriate. Even as reading lessons and exercises in parsing and analysis of sen-tences they are not the most desirable that might be found; while to set any one to learn them by heart, as appears from the Preface to be contemplated, is what few practical teachers would think of doing. It is fair to observe that this objection does not apply to all the prose extracts, nor to the poetical passages, which constitute about half the volume, and are of great intrinsic value, as well as adapted for lessons in reading, grammatical analysis, and memoriter repetition. We quite agree with Mr. Campbell, the writer of the Preface, as to the importance of making whatever is committed to memory thoroughly understood beforehand, by parsing, analyzing, paraphrasing, and explanatory information.

information.

The recently-published edition of Mr. A. Keith Johnston's Atlas of Classical Geography (Blackwood & Sons) is so much enlarged and improved as to be virtually a new work, surpassing anything else of the kind extant, both in utility and beauty. A more complete and in every way satisfactory companion to the study of ancient history and geography need hardly be desired. The maps are most carefully delineated, with a strict accuracy, extending even to the minutest details, the lines extending even to the minutest details, the lines being very distinct, and the names, even when necessarily crowded, always easily legible. In short, there is a delicate finish of execution about the whole which is at once gratifying to the eye and instructive to the mind. A special excellence of the work is the insertion in spare corners of or the work is the insertion in spare corners or small maps, representing on a much larger scale places of historic interest, particularly the sites of celebrated battles—even the relative positions of the contending forces being not unfrequently indi-cated. Besides a map of the world as known to the ancients, there are others corresponding to the views of particular writers, and one exhibiting both views of particular writers, and one exhibiting both the real and imaginary geography of Homer, for which the author acknowledges himself indebted to Mr. Gladstone, who allowed him to make use of the illustrations in his 'Homer and the Homeric Ages,' and rendered him other valuable assistance. We

also Syria and neighbouring countries, is on so small a scale that the names are very crowded, and even such a place as Nazareth is not to be found in it. On the other hand, there are corner maps of Jerusalem at the time of its destruction by Titus, and the city with its environs.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ainsworth's Constable de Bourbon, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31/6 el.

Airy's Popular Astronomy, 18mc. 4/6 cl.

Bates's Speaking to the Life. 18mo. 3/6 el.

Bates's Speaking to the Life. 18mo. 3/6 el.

Bernard's Our Common Fruits, 18mo. 2/ bds.

Bernard's Our Common Fruits, 18mo. 2/ bds.

Bohn's Standard Life. 18mo: Sons Complete Works, Vol. 1, 3/6 el.

Chryssotom's Service of Divine Litury, 38mo. 2/ el.

Conversations on the History of England. by C. A. B., 18mo. 3/6 el.

Conversations on the History of England. by C. A. B., 18mo. 3/6 el.

Cooke's Moral Guph betwirt Man and Brute, cr. 8vo. 3/6 el.

Echlin's Lectures, Sure Word of Prophecy, cr. 8vo. 4/ cl.

Echlin's Lectures, Sure Word of Prophecy, cr. 8vo. 4/ cl.

Echlin's Lectures, Sure Word of Prophecy, cr. 8vo. 1/6 el.

Forster's South Australia, its Progress, 2c., 8vo. 15/ cl.

Josh Billings: his Book of Sayings, cr. 8vo. 16/ cl.

Last Days in England of the Rajah Rammohun Roy, 8vo. 7/6 el.

Murray's Distribution of Sayings, cr. 8vo. 3/6 el.

Last Days in Saying of Sayings, cr. 8vo. 1/6 el.

Roscoc's Lessons in Elementary Chemistry, 18mo. 4/6 el.

Shaw's Handbook of the Art of Illumination, folio, 108/ cl.

Whitfield's The Changed Ones, 37mo. 1/6 el. Imp.

Wood's Elster's Folly, 3 vols. post 8vo. 3//6 el.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT EXHIBITION. NATIONAL PORTRAIT EXHIBITION.

WITH No. 469 (Lady Hobart) a new manner of painting presents itself with great tone. Attributed to Jansen, and having a good deal of Rembrandtish manner in it, this excellent portrait is noteworthy for its freedom and lucidity. Lord Ellesmere (476) is the "very picture" of such a man,—a dry, formal face, with a truncated and thin beard, all grey. A striking example of the preservation of family features appears by comparing the features of the present Earl of Shaftesbury with those of his ancestor here depicted.—No. 492. the features of the present Earl of Shattesbury with those of his ancestor here depicted.—No. 492, Henry Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, is a capital picture by Van Somer. In 512, Anne, Countess of Dorset, Pembroke and Montgomery, attributed, erroneously we think, to Van Somer, we have the heroine of that terse epistle, "Your man shan't stand," to a minister who sent a candidate for one of the heavy the resolute locking little woman. of her boroughs, a resolute-looking little woman, but not at all of fierce aspect. It was she who paid Nicholas Stone 40l. for the monument of Spenser which is set up in Westminster Abbey, 1620. No. 514 represents her first husband, No. 589 her second, the son of "Sydney's sister" (284).—

James, Marquis of Hamilton, (522) is one of the finest portraits by Mytens the Elder we have seen. There is another of the same, by the same, in Hamilton Palace. Cold and black in colour, there is much in the solid and sound painting, and evident power in portraiture, to be admired in the work of Mytens: see the whole-length from Knole, Lionel Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, (518) by this master, who faded before Vandyke in a manner we can readily understand, on comparing the above of her boroughs, a resolute-looking little woman can readily understand, on comparing the above with that which is surely the best of Vandyke's productions here, Charles, James and Mary, Children of Charles the First (556). Vandyke is for dren of Chartes the Perse tool, tunately represented here by a comparatively small number of his works; had it been greater, no doubt the mannerism and tradesmanlike tricks of this very the mannerism and tradesmanlike tricks of this very unequal artist would have now, as they did in life, done much to injure his reputation. The sentimental fascination which does so much, popularly, for the innumerable portraits of Charles the First, by Vandyke, is not proof against critical examination, by means of which the real vulgarity of that monarch's countenance is distinct, through the pictorial varnish, or "air," the painter cast about them. His red, bottle-shaped nose, his narrow forpictorial varnish, or "air," the painter cast about them. His red, bottle-shaped nose, his narrow fore-head, cold and coarse mouth, which the scanty beard cannot hide, his veiny and raw-looking cheeks, and the supercilious, insensible, heartless, traitorous eyes,—most hateful eyes to us,—are in-vested on the canvas of Vandyke with a peculiar grace, which, after its novelty is over, powerfully suggests stage influences of the vulgar sort. An excellent chiaroscurist, not always a good colourist, a master in character, an indifferent draughtsman, yet an admirable modeller, the artist is seen at his best in the picture we named last (556). Three his best in the picture we named has (550). Three children and two dogs,—the best, painted dogs we ever saw, most gentlemanly dogs. Charles and James are hand in hand, a pretty action; the somewhat solid-looking Mary stands singly beside her brothers. The whole is a beautiful piece of colour; the amber satin of Charles's dress going exquisitely

with the bronze, black, and gold of the screen behind, and the grey white of the robes of the younger children—cold colour, which centres on the rich blue of Mary's over-robe. The whole is so broadly got together, so luminous, yet so soft, rich, and sober, the design is so simple, the composition so easy, that it is difficult to praise the picture too highly. It is far more worthy of Vandyke's reputation than the equestrian portrait of Charles the First (561), about which men have written so much. There were several repliche of this work; two are now at Warwick and Windsor; a third, Mr. Soden Smith tells us, is at the seat of Sir C. Isham, Lamport Hall, Westmoreland. Another fine Vandyke represents James Hay, Earl of Cartisle, (538) the husband of Strafford's friend, Lucy Percy, of whom Waller wrote, when she was in widow's weeds for this man, that

A spark of virtue by the deepest shade Of sad adversity is deeper made; Nor less advantage doth thy beauty get, A Venus rising from a sea of jet!

Of the Earl of Carlisle himself, Clarendon wrote that "he left behind him the reputation of a very fine gentleman, and a most accomplished courtier; and, after having spent in a very jovial life above 400,000l., which, upon a strict computation, he received from the Crown, he left not a house nor an acre of land to be remembered by."-Waller himself is here (660); also his "Sacharissa" (Lady Dorothea Sidney, 662, 684). There must be a mistake somewhere in the ascription of the latter picture to Vandyke, and probably also to Lady Dorothea herself; it looks like a bad Lely. Its eyes leer in an unpleasant manner, notwithstanding their bad drawing. No. 537 shows us the handsome, girlish face of Digby, Earl of Bristol, by Jansen In 549 and 717, we have capital portraits of Henry Lawes, composer of the music to Milton's 'Comus,' and, when it was first performed, in 1634, at Ludlow Castle, he personated the "Attendant Spirit," he had that glory amongst glories of being the recipient of a sonnet from Milton, well known by its soaring beginning,—

Harry, whose tuneful and well-measured sons.

Need we add that Sir Henry Vane the Younger
(655) is the

Vane, young in years, but in sage counsel old, of another of these noble sonnets, sharing that honour with Fairfax (708) and Cromwell (790, 798, 799, 803). The face of Lawes is a very gentle one, full of sweetness .- Close by is Lord Saye and Sele (551), a noted Puritan and early colonizer of certain now thickly-peopled parts of America, also one of the Commissioners to His Majesty at the Isle of Wight, who, nevertheless, became Lord Privy Seal in the days of the "Martyr's" son; and, while holding that office, vexed the very soul of Pepys "by his delaying of businesse, which made me mad," and whom the diarist was glad to find a "lyon not so fierce as he is painted. No. 553 we have a fine portrait by Old Stone, as he is called, to distinguish him from his brother; both were sons of Nicholas Stone, the statuary, before alluded to. This picture represents—in a sin-gularly clear and solid manner, which effectually disposes of Walpole's assertion that the artist was a copyist of Vandyke—Frances Cecil, daughter of Robert of that name (246, 259), and Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Cobham; the portrait one of the soundest and most valuable examples in the Gallery, masterly in modelling and very brilliant.

The bold Charlotte de la Tremouille, Countess of Derby, (554) by Rubens, is a dashing sketch of a dashing-looking woman in cap, plume and hair entwined with pearls, which somehow startles us as the portrait of that obdurate lady who held out Lathom House so well, and to whom is given, with some reason, that rather dubious honour, which so many have claimed, of being the last to resist the Parliament. This lady's mother, a grave but not unpleasant-looking Huguenot, Charlotte Brabantine de Nassau (458), was daughter of William the First of Orange.—What a handsome fellow is Philip, Earl of Pembroke, (560) nephew and namesake of Sir Philip, who married "Anne, Countess of Dorset," (512)! The beau-ideal of a cavalier, by Vandyke,—a serious, delicate-looking youth, with the well-known black

bracelet on his wrist.—The dead head of Villiers, first Duke of Buckingham, (564) is not like that vicious, half Jewish-looking mask that is obviously a cast from nature, now preserved with the "Ragged Regiment" in Westminster Abbey.—In 579 we have one of the most striking but least pleasant faces in the Gallery, that of no less a personage than the Earl of Strafford, by Vandyke, bull-faced, with the head set forward on the shoulders, stern, fixed eyes that are as black as jet, and a firm, heavy mouth. If the portrait of the same and his secretary, Sir P. Mainwaring (624), was ever produced by Vandyke, it is the worst executed of his works known to us: see the drawing of the secretary's hands, the crude colouring of both faces. Probably this picture has been "restored" with unwonted severity.

FRENCH MISSION IN SYRIA.

THE following Report, by M. E. G. Rey, to the Minister of Public Instruction, has just been published in Paris.—

"In the month of August, 1864, I was charged by your Excellency with a scientific mission in the north of Syria. The principal object of my mission, besides the study of the military movements of the Crusaders, was the correction of the geography and archæology of the mountains of the Ansariés and of the regions lying in the pachalic of Aleppo, on the right bank of the Orontes, and between that river and the Euphrates. The mountains of the Ansariés -known in ancient times under the names of Mounts Bargylus, and which separate the basin of the Orontes from the littoral of the Mediterranean—are yet little known. In the beginning of the resent century the Emperor Napoleon sent Col. Boutin to explore them; but he was assassinated in the year 1812. Since that time few travellers have penetrated into these mysterious valleys, which, however, were pointed out by the eminent geographer, Karl Ritter, for research. Burckhardt was the first to traverse the southern extremity of the mountains and to throw some light on the topography of a portion of these countries. Between the years 1848 and 1852, the American missionaries, Eli Smith and Thompson, and afterwards Lyde, traversed these mountains with a view to the establishment of a Protestant mission and schools; but their efforts were fruitless. Eli Smith alone collected geographical notes of great interest, which he communicated to Karl Ritter. In consequence, however, of the death of their author, these notes seem to have been lost for ever to science. Some itineraries of the Rev. Mr. Thompson, published in the 'Bibliotheca Sacra,' supplied us with the first serious information respecting the districts of Safita and El Hosn. These regions were also visited by Lieut. Walpole; but, unfortunately, his notes, like those of Mr. Lyde, do not furnish exact notions relative to the configuration of the country. In the month of May, 1861, Mr. Waddington traversed the southern extremity of the of these mountains, on his way from Kalaat el Hosn to Massiad, and visited the villages of Safita and Kartouman. In the following year the Comte de Vogué went from Kalaat el Hosn across the district of Safita to Tortosa. Lastly, one document alone furnished me with precise notions of the country-but unfortunately only of the coast -namely, the English hydrographic chart published in 1862.

I arrived in Syria at the end of the month of August, 1864, at the moment that the Duc de Luynes had completed his remarkable exploration of the Dead Sea, and I found at Beyrouth his companion, Lieut. Vignes, who was about to set off for the purpose of rectifying the astronomical determination of Palmyra and of a series of points in the valley of the Orontes. This officer and I determined to carry on our geographical labours in connexion with each other, and before separating we measured a triangle near Tripoli to serve as point of departure. On the 15th of September we quitted Tripoli, and in a few hours crossed two rivers—first, the Nahar el Bared, at the point where Orthosia stood, and afterwards the Nahar el Kebir. On the following day we separated—M. Vignes going towards Homs by Kalaat el Hoen, and I

towards the north. On the same day I traversal the great plain which stretches between the moun-tains of Akkar, the last range of the Lebanon; and during the following days I passed through the cantons of Chara, El Hosn, and Safita, where I attained the culminating point of the chain of the Ansariés, at an altitude of about 1,200 mètres. It was in the midst of these mountains that I found in the locality of Hosn Souleiman, the ruins of the temples of Jupiter, which had only been mentioned by Lieut. Walpole, and whose scientific importance was yet unknown. The first thing that strikes the eye in descending towards the site of the ancient Bactocete is a vast enclosure, 144 metres long and 90 metres wide; the figure is irregular, and approaches the trapezium, so that its plan resembles that of Haram es Scherif at Jerusalem. It is the best-preserved specimen of sacred enclosed sure. It is constructed of blocks measuring from 6 to 9 mètres in length, 2.85 to 2.90 in height, and, on an average, from 98 centimètres to 1'10 mètre in thickness. There are four entrances to the enclosure. On one of the piers of that which faces the north-east may be read two inscriptions: the first, in Greek, recounts the donations made to the temple by a King of Seleucis; the second, in Latin, the restoration of its revenues during the Roman period. In the middle of the enclosure rises a temple of the Ionic order, which seems never to have been completely finished; and in front of the peristyle is an altar, which probably was formerly covered with bronze. Towards the north-west exists another group of edifices, which the people of the country call El Deir, or the Monastery. It consists of a small temple, apparently of a good period, and of an imposing structure, in which, perhaps, the priests of Jupiter were accustomed to assemble.

accustomed to assemble.

"On the same occasion I had the opportunity of visiting again the remains of a sanctuary of more recent date at Naous, near Tripoli; it consists of two temples, with a réµνος, still in a good state of preservation. Here, as at Hosn Souleiman, I found the walls formed of gigantic blocks, with courses of masonry beneath, which agreed with the ordinary dimensions of classic architecture. The same fact was observed by M. Joyau in the ruins of Balbee. I think it right to remark this rare peculiarity, which appears in three different places, evidently with systematic regularity. I thought it my duty to give several days to the examination of these interesting ruins. I therefore left the site of Hosn Souleiman, and, descending towards the south, I followed the ridge of the chain, and visited the spring known as Nahar es Sabte; this is the Sabbatical stream mentioned both by Pliny and Josephus, and on the banks of which Titus rested on his way to Antioch after the siege of Jerusalem.

"Afterwards, in making my way towards Hamath, I saw the ruins of Baarin, the Mona Ferrandus of the Crusaders, -the site of Raphaneo, -and the celebrated castle of Massiad, the ancient residence of the Dail-Kebir, or Grand Prior of the Batenites of Syria. Hamath having been thoroughly studied by my learned predecessor and friend, Mr. Waddington, I only stayed a few days in that place, whence I went to examine the ruins of Selmieh, on the right bank of the Orontes, and found there several Coptic inscriptions, full of interest, and dating from the early years of the Hegira. Selmieh presents the peculiarity of having been built by Mussulmans on the site of a Byzan tine city, which is supposed to have been Iren-opolis. I also studied the ruins of the castle of Schoumaïmis, which Kemal Eddin-Abou Haft Omar, the historian of Aleppo, says was rebuilt by Melik Moudjahid. I then proceeded to Aleppo by Marrah and Sermin, by a road which has not yet been mapped. In visiting the ruins of Areymeh I gained the site of Membedj, the ancient Hierapolis, situated in a rocky plain, about six miles from the Euphrates. Here stood the temple in which, according to Lucian, the rites mentioned in his treatise, 'De Dea Syria,' were solemnized. On reaching the centre of these ruins one is struck at once with the topography of the sanctuaries, as described by the Greek author. To the west of the city may still be seen, half dried up, the lake in which the sacred fish were kept It was on its

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banks that took place the ceremony of the descent of the lake of which Lucian gives such a curious account. A little further on is the hill on which stood the temple; the orientation of its chief axis stood the temple; the orientation of its chief axis is north, with a quarter west. Unfortunately, nothing remains of the building, unless it be some thapeless fragments mingled with the Arab constructions of the Middle Age which surround it. The hill and the sacred lake alone recall, with a certain exactness, the places described by the Greek writer. The monuments of the ancient Hierapolis disappeared to furnish materials for the constructions of the Lower Empire, whose work, in its turn, was displaced for the edifices of the Mussulman conquerors. Nevertheless, I was able to obtain a certain number of Arab inscriptions, which are not without interest; and I was fortunate enough to find in the midst of the ruins of the temple a stela in lava, representing the Goddess of Syria seated on a throne, supported by two lions, and conforming, in all respects, to the description given by Lucian.

"Returning again to Aleppo, I proceeded to Latakieh to explore the northern part of the mountains of the Ansariés. Taking the course of the Nahar er Sahioun, one of the principal affluents of the Nahar el Kebir of Latakich, I traversed suc-cessively the cantons of Sahioun, Kerdaha and Mehelbeh, where I visited the ruins of the castle of that name; but they present nothing but a mass of rubbish belonging to the Christian middle age and the Arab period. Then descending again to Jebilé, where I desired to make some geodesical observations, we regained the mountains to visit the cantons of Aleïka and Kadmous, inhabited during the Middle Ages by the Batenites of Syria. The aspect of this portion of the country is very wild, the sides of the valleys forming almost im-practicable precipices. The hills were formerly wooded, but the coppices have recently been burnt, and the white ashes may be seen here and there. A few large evergreen oaks, despoiled of their foliage and half carbonized, still stand erect. These recent and extensive traces of fire in the midst of the abrupt gorges add to the wild desolation of the seene. No buildings are to be seen but a few miser-able huts inhabited by Ansariés and Ishmaelites, as wild and as picturesque as the rocks by which they are surrounded. In the midst of these rocks are the ruins of the castles of Aleïka and Kadmous. are the ruins of the castles of Aleika and Kadmous. The former is almost entirely destroyed, and its remains present no archeological interest; and of the latter searcely a vestige remains, Ibrahim Pacha having blown it up during his campaign against the Ansariés in 1836. The modern village of Kadmous is inhabited almost exclusively by Ishmaelites. From the last-named place I ascended the Djebel Naby-Schit, one of the highest points of this portion of the mountains. Thence I proceeded to Tortosa, passing by Markab, the Margat of the Knights Hospitallers, the last possession of the Christians in Syria, and which only fell in 1287 before the efforts of the Sultan Kélaoun. * *

"The strong places possessed in the Middle Ages by the Crusaders in this part of Syria were con-nected with each other by small towers or stations, all built after a uniform plan, and a great number of which exist still. They present, on a small scale, all the features of the donjon, are invariably square, and composed of two vaulted stories, which subdivided by wooden planks,-a system which I subdivided by wooden planks,—a system which had before observed in the donjon of Djebail. In the middle of the lower floor is the opening of a cistern. These towers, which could have had but a small garrison, assured communication between the 'castles, and answered the purpose of block houses in modern warfare.

"Of all these castles none possessed the importance of Tortosa. This fortress, which had a double en-ceinte of walls and deep fosses filled by the sea, stands at the north-west angle of the site once occu-pied by the town. The height of the inner wall allowed the defenders, who occupied the double crenellated line which crowned it, to aid those on the outer wall in case of attack. The whole of both walls is flanked with square towers. In the centre of the reduct rose all the accessories of a grand fortress of the Middle Ages—chapel, donjon, grand salle or château, &c. The donjon, of which the base

still exists, is apparently that which is described by Wilbrand of Oldenburg and Jacques de Vitry, under the title Turris Antaradis.

"My various excursions having occupied me till the 13th of December, and the rainy season setting in, I was compelled to take up my winter quarters at Beyrouth. In the month of May I intended to continue my researches, and quitted Beyrouth with continue my researches, and quitted Beyrouth with that intention; but, after having explored the en-virons of Teffaah and Kaouaby, I was attacked by the fever. I was, therefore, compelled to give up the idea of continuing my journey and to return to France, leaving incomplete the map of the northern part of the mountains of the Ansariés. I was, however, enabled to complete my study of the epoch of the Crusades, and to elucidate many points in the territorial and military organization of the Christian principalities of Syria during the Middle Ages."

SUPPLEMENT TO THE BUDGET OF PARADOXES.

(No. IV.)

The rights of Max, being an answer to Mr. Burke's attack on the French Revolution. By Thomas Faine. In two parts. 1791, 1792. 8vo. (Various colitions.)

A vindication of the rights of Woman, with strictures on political and moral subjects. By Mary Wollstonecraft. 1792. 8vo.

A sketch of the rights of Boys and Girls. By Launcelot Light, of Westminster School; and Lettita Lockabout, of Queen's Square, Bloomsbury. [By the Rev. Samuel Part, LL.D.] 1792. 8vo. (pp. 64).

When did we three meet before? The first work has sunk into oblivion: had it merited its title, it might have lived. It is what the French call a pièce de circonstance; it belongs in time to the French Revolution, and in matter to Burke's opinion of that movement. Those who only know its name think it was really an attempt to write a philosophical treatise on what we now call socialism. Silly government prosecutions gave it what it never

Silly government prosecutions gave it what it never could have got for itself.

Mary Wollstonecraft seldom has her name spelt right. I suppose the O! O! character she got made her Woolstonecraft. Watt gives double insinuation, for his cross-reference sends us to Goodwin. No doubt the title of the book was an act of discipleship to Paine's 'Rights of Man'; but this title is very badly chosen. The book was marred by it, especially when the authoress and her husband assumed the right of dispensing with legal sanction until the approach of offspring brought them to a sense of their child's interest. Not a hint of such a claim is found in the book, which is mostly about female education. The right claimed for woman is to have the education of a rational human being, and not to be considered as nothing but woman throughout youthful training. The maxims of Mary Wollstonecraft are now, though not derived from her, largely followed in the education of girls, especially in home education: just as many of the political principles of Tom Paine, again not derived from him, are the guides doubt the title of the book was an act of disciple-Paine, again not derived from him, are the guides of our actual legislation. I remember, forty years ago, an old lady who used to declare that she disliked girls from the age of sixteen to five-and-twenty. "They are full," said she, "of femalities." She spoke of their behaviour to women as well as to men. She would have been shocked to know that she was a follower of Mary Wollstonecraft, and had packed half her book into one sentence.

The third work is a satirical attack on Mary Wollstonecraft and Tom Paine. The details of the attack would convince any one that neither has anything which would now excite reprolation. It is utterly unworthy of Dr. Parr, and has quite disappeared from lists of his works, if it were ever disappeared from lists of his works, he were ever there. That it was written by him I take to be evident, as follows. Nichols, who could not fail to know, says (Anecd., vol. ix. p. 120): "This is a playful essay by a first-rate scholar, who is elsewhere noticed in this volume, but whose name I while not bring forward on so trifling an occasion."
Who the scholar was is made obvious by Master
Launcelot being made to talk of Bellendenus. Further, the same boy is made to say, "Let Dr. Parr lay his hand upon his heart, if his conscience will let him, and ask himself how many thousands

Parr, with his handful of private pupils, and no reputation for severity? Any one except himself would have called on the head-master of West-minster or Eton. I doubt whether the name of Parr could be connected with the rod by anything in print, except the above and an anecdote of his pupil, Tom Sheridan. The Doctor had dressed for a dinner visit, and was ready a quarter-of-anhour too soon to set off. "Tom," said he, "I think I had better whip you now; you are sure todo something while I am out."—"I wish you
would, sir!" said the boy; "it would be a letter
of licence for the whole evening." The Doctor
saw the force of the retort: my two tutelaries will
see it by this time. They paid in advance; and
I have dispulsible interpretation to the order. I have given liberal interpretation to the order.

The Elements of Geometry. In 2 vols. [By the Rev. J. Dobson, B.D.] Cambridge, 1815. 4to. Of this unpunctuating paradoxer I shall give an account in his own way: he would not stop for any one; why should I stop for him? It is worth while to try how unpunctuated sentences will read.

The reverend J Dobson BD late fellow of saint Johns college Cambridge was rector of Brandes-burton in Yorkshire he was seventh wrangler in 1798 and died in 1847 he was of that sort of eccentricity which permits account of his private life if we may not rather say that in such cases private life becomes public there is a tradition that he was life becomes public there is a tradition that he was called death Dobson on account of his head and aspect of countenance being not very unlike the ordinary pictures of a human skull his mode of life is reported to have been very singular whenever he visited Cambridge he was never known to go twice to the same inn he never would sleep at the rectory with another person in the house some aroient. with another person in the house some ancient charwoman used to attend to the house but never slept in it he has been known in the time of coach travelling to have deferred his return to Yorkshire on account of his disinclination to travel with a lady in the coach he continued his mathematical studies until his death and till his executors sold the type all his tracts to the number of five were the type at his tracts to the number of five were kept in type at the university press none of these tracts had any stops except full stops at the end of paragraphs only neither had they capitals except one at the beginning of a paragraph so that a full stop was generally followed by some white as there is not a single recover page if the related to stop was generally followed by some white as there is not a single proper name in the whole of the book I have I am not able to say whether he would have used capitals before proper names I have inserted them as usual for which I hope his spirit will forgive me if I be wrong he also published the elements of geometry in two volumes quarto Cambridge 1815 this book had also no stops except when a comma was wanted between letters as in the straight lines AB, BC I should also say that though the title is unpunctuated in the author's part it seems the publishers would not stand it in their imprint this imprint is punctuated as usual and Deighton and sons to prove the completeness of their allegiance have managed that comma semi-colon colon and period shall all appear in it why could they not have contrived interrogation and could they not have contrived interregation and exclamation this is a good precedent to establish the separate right of the publisher over the imprint it is said that only twenty of the tracts were printed and very few indeed of the book on geometry it is doubtful whether any were sold there is a copy of the geometry in the university library at Cambridge and I have one myself the matter of the geometry with the properties of the geometry in the control of the differs entirely from Euclid and is so fearfully prolix that I am sure no mortal except the author ever read it the man went on without stops and without stop save for a period at the end of a paragraph this is the unpunctuated account of the unpunctuating geometer suum cuique tribuito mrs Thrale would have been amused at a Dobson who managed to come to a full stop without either of the three warnings.

I do not find any difficulty in reading Dobson's geometry; and I have read more of it to try reading without stops than I should have done had it been printed in the usual way. Those who dip into the middle of my paragraph may be surprised for a moment to see that "on account of his disincliwill let him, and ask himself how many thousands of waggon loads of this article [birch] he has cruelly misapplied." How could this apply to [further, of course] until his executors sold the

But a person reading straight through type." would hardly take it so. I should add that, in order to give a fair trial, I did not compose as I wrote, but copied the words of the correspondent who gave me the facts, so far as they went.

(No. 11.) The theological review elsewhere mentioned attributes the pamphlet of John Search on blasphemous libel to Lord Brougham. This is quite absurd: the writer states points of law on credence where the judge must have spoken with authority. Besides which, a hundred points of style are decisive between the two. I think any one who knows Whately's writings will soon arrive at my

Almanach Romain sur la Loterie Royale de France, ou les Etrennes nécessaires aux, Actionnaires et Receveurs de la dite Loterie. Par M. Menut de St.-Mesmin. Paris, 1830. 12mo.

This book contains all the drawings of the French lottery (two, or three, each month) from 1758 to 1830. It is intended for those who thought they could predict the future drawings from the past: and various sets of sympathetic The principle numbers are given to help them. is, that anything which has not happened for a long time must be soon to come. At rouge et noir, for example, when the red has won five times running, sagacious gamblers stake on the black, for they think the turn which must come at last is nearer than it was. So it is: but observation would have shown that if a large number of those cases had been registered which show a run of five for the red, the next game would just as often have made the run into six as have turned in favour of the black. But the gambling reasoner is incorrigible : if he would but take to squaring the circle, what a load of misery would be saved. A writer of 1823, who appeared to be thoroughly acquainted with the gambling of Paris and London, says that the gamesters by profession are haunted by a secret foreboding of their future destruction, and seem as if they said to the banker at the table, as the gladiators said to the emperor, Morituri te salutant.

In the French lottery, five numbers out of ninety were drawn at a time. Any person, in any part of the country, might stake any sum upon any he pleased, as that 27 should be drawn; that 42 and 81 should be drawn; that 42 and 81 should be drawn, and 42 first; and so on up to a quine déterminé, if he chose, which is betting on five given numbers in a given order. Thus, in July, 1821, one of the drawings was 8 46 16 64 13.

A gambler had actually predicted the five numbers (but not their order), and won 131,350 francs on a trifling stake. M. Menut seems to insinuate that the hint what numbers to choose was given at his own office. Another won 20,852 francs on the quaterne 8, 16, 46, 64, in this very drawing. These gains, of course, were widely advertised: of the multitudes who lost nothing was said. The enormous number of those who played is proved to all who have studied chances arithmetically by the numbers of simple quaternes which were gained: in 1822, fourteen; in 1823, six; in 1824, sixteen; in 1825,

nine, &c.

The paradoxes of what is called chance, or hazard, might themselves make a small volume. All the world understands that there is a long run, a general average; but great part of the world is surprised that this general average should be computed and predicted. There are many remarkable cases of verification; and one of them relates to the quadrature of the circle. I give some account of this and another. Throw a penny time after time until head arrives, which it will do before long: let this be called a set. Accordingly, H is the smallest set, TH the next smallest, then TTH, &c. For abbreviation, let a set in which seven tails occur before head turns up be T'H. In an immense number of trials of sets, about half will be H; about a quarter, TH; about an eighth, ToH. Buffon tried 2,048 sets; and several have followed It will tend to illustrate the principle if I give all the results; namely, that many trials will with moral certainty show an approach-and the greater the greater the number of trials-to that average which sober reasoning predicts. In the first column is the most likely number of the

theory: the next column gives Buffon's result; the three next are results obtained from trial by correspondents of mine. In each case the number of trials is 2,048.

Н	1,024	1,061 .	1,048		1,017	1,039
TH					547	
T2H	256	232	248		235	267
T3H	128	137 .	99		118	126
T'H	64	56 .	71		72	67
T5H		29 .	38		32	33
T6H		25	17		10	19
T7H			9	***	9	10
T8H		6.	5		3	3
T9H			3		2	4
T10H	1		1		1	
THH			0		1	
T12H			0		0	
T13H	1		1		0	
T14H			0			
T15H			1		1	
&c.			0		0	
		-				

2,048 ... 2,048 ... 2,048 ... 2,048 ... 2,048 In very many trials, then, we may depend upon something like the predicted average. Conversely, from many trials we may form a guess at what the average will be. Thus, in Buffon's experiment the 2,048 first throws of the sets gave head in 1,061 cases: we have a right to infer that in the long run something like 1,061 out of 2,048 is the proportion of heads, even before we know the rea for the equality of chance, which tell us that 1,024 out of 2,048 is the real truth. I now come to the way in which such considerations have led to a mode in which mere pitch-and-toss has given a more accurate approach to the quadrature of the circle than has been reached by some of my paradoxers. What would my friend in No. 14 have said to this? The method is as follows: Suppose a planked floor of the usual kind, with thin visible ams between the planks. Let there be a thin straight rod, or wire, not so long as the breadth of the plank. This rod, being tossed up at hazard, will either fall quite clear of the seams, or will lay across one seam. Now Buffon, and after him Laplace, proved the following: That in the long run the fraction of the whole number of trials in which a seam is intersected will be the fraction which twice the length of the rod is of the circumference of the circle having the breadth of a plank for its diameter. In 1855 Mr. Ambrose Smith, of Aberdeen, made 3,204 trials with a rod three-fifths of the distance between the planks: there were 1,213 clear intersections, and 11 contacts on which it was difficult to decide. Divide these contacts equally, and we have 1,218½ to 3,204 for the ratio of 6 to 5π , presuming that the greatness of the number of trials gives something near to the final average, or result in the long run: this gives $\pi=3.1553$. If all the 11 contacts had been treated as intersections, the result would have been $\pi=3.1412$, exceedingly near. A pupil of mine made 600 trials with a rod of the length between the seams, and got $\pi = 3.137$.

This method will hardly be believed until it has been repeated so often that "there never could

have been any doubt about it."

The first experiment strongly illustrates a truth of the theory, well confirmed by practice: what-ever can happen will happen if we make trials enough. Who would undertake to throw tail eight times running? Nevertheless, in the 8,192 sets tail 8 times running occurred 17 times; 9 times running, 9 times; 10 times running, twice; 11 times and 13 times, each once; and 15 times, A. DE MORGAN. twice.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Lord Romilly had the satisfaction of opening his new Literary Search Room at the Record Office, in Fetter Lane, on Thursday last. The apartment is well arranged and well lighted; and all fees, except for certified copies of documents, have been abolished. On the very first day the room was crowded with readers.

Cornelius Donders, of Utrecht, Georg Friderick Bernhard Riemann, of Göttingen, and Gustar Rose, of Berlin.

Mr. F. T. Palgrave is engaged in preparing for publication, at the end of the summer, a new Life of Sir Walter Scott.

A meeting of the Palestine Exploration Committee is called for Thursday next, to receive Capt Wilson's report of his recent visit to Syria. The meeting, which will be held in the Asiatic Society's rooms, will determine on the future course of the exploring party.

A memorial has been presented to the Chan-cellor of the Exchequer, in the following words, and with the signatures appended: "It having been stated that the scientific men of the metropolis are, as a body, entirely opposed to the removal of the natural history collections from their present situation in the British Museum, we, the undersigned Fellows of the Royal, Linnean, Geological, and Zoological Societies of London, beg leave to offer to you the following expression of our opinion upon the subject. We are of opinion that it is of fundamental importance to the progress of the natural sciences in this country that the administration of the national natural history collections should be separated from that of the Library and Art collections, and placed under one officer, who should be immediately responsible to one of the Queen's ministers. We regard the exact locality of the National Museum of Natural History as a question of comparatively minor importance, provided that it be conveniently accessible and within vided that it be conveniently accessible and within
the metropolitan district. G. Bentham, W. B.
Carpenter, M.D., W. S. Dallas, C. Darwin, F.
Ducane Godman, J. H. Gurney, E. Hamilton,
M.D., J. D. Hooker, M.D., T. H. Huxley, J.
Kirk, Lilford, A. Newton, W. K. Parker, A.
Ramsay, A. Russell, O. Salvin, P. L. Sclater,
G. Sclater-Booth, S. J. A. Salter, W. H. Simpson,
J. Emerson Tennent, T. Thomson
Tristram, Walden, A. R. Wallace.

Mr. Procter's Memoir of Charles Lan. is very nearly ready for issue.

We hear from Smyrna (through Dr. Hyde Clarke) that Mr. Spiegelthal has made a curious discovery with respect to the great Syro-Assyrian monument called the pseudo-Sesostris. He has found on the margin of the brook, at Nymphæum, a little lower down the stream, a repetition of the colossal rock-cut sculpture, with the bow, lance, &c. The face is said to be much disfigured.

We give the following personal explanation as we receive it :-

"Llandaff, June 13, 1866.

"My attention has just been called to a notice of those architects who have had the good fortune to be invited to compete for the new Law Courts. As you represent my late partner, Mr. Seddon, as the restorer of Llandaff Cathedral, Brecon Schools, and premiated competitor for the Foreign Office, will you permit me to correct an error calculated to do me a serious injury and injustice, by depriving me of the fruition of my long-sustained labour, as I emphatically claim each of those works as my own? It is true that Mr. Seddon did something for each of them, but so infinitesimally small as to make it a complete mistake to associate his name with those works. I sincerely trust that the mistake has been made without his knowledge or approval. I should be the last person to do my friend an injustice; indeed, I hope I should be the first to recognize those great abilities of his which need no false colours to sail under. The important works which Mr. Seddon may fairly lay claim to are the partial restoration of St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth, and the large hotel at Aberystwith. These are exclusively his, as Eatington Park is These are exclusively mine. Yours, &c., "John Prichard."

The Dramatic College Fête is arranged for Saturday, July 7, and Monday, July 9, at the Crystal Palace.

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Booksellers' Provident Institution took place At their meeting last week the Royal Society at the Retreat, Abbott's Langley, on Saturday last elected on their list of Foreign Members Franz E. Hodgson, Esq. was in the chair; and a Report

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for the year ending December 31, 1865, was read, from which we extract the following statement:—Balance in the hands of the Treasurer, 1362. 5s.; cash and interest in the hands of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, 7272. 2s.; amount invested in the names of trustees in 32. per cent. reduced annuities, as a permanent maintenance fund for keeping up the houses, &c., 2,7082.; amount invested by T. Brown, Esq. (late of the firm of Longmans & Co.), in the names of trustees appointed by himself, in 32. per cent. reduced annuities, the annual amount accruing therefrom to be expended in providing medicine and medical assistance for the immates of the Retreat, 1,0002. During the year 1865 a handsome legacy of 5002. was left to the Retreat by the late T. Roberts, Esq., junior partner in the house of Messrs. Longman & Co.; and also a small one of 102. by the late Mr. W. Kemm, many years a valuable assistant in the house of Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. The Retreat comprises seven houses, situated in charmingly-kept grounds, nearly opposite the King's Langley Railway Station, all of which are occupied by aged members of the Booksellers' Institution, who alone are eligible.

Under the name of "Dufferiah, Incumbent of Horsehair-cum-Chintz," an experienced writer is about to produce 'A Bundle of Epigrams.'

Mr. Stanford has produced a "shilling map" of the war scenery, including both the northern and southern theatre of operations. It is, of course, a slight affair, but will be useful as a companion to the ordinary newspaper-reader.

The Italian Government have given orders for the manufacture of cuirasses of aluminium for their cavalry regiments. A series of experiments made under various conditions demonstrate that a cuirass of this metal, while possessing the great advantage of being as light as a coat, cannot be pierced by a musket-ball at the distance of forty paces, nor by the thrust of a bayonet. It has also been ascertained that cuirasses of this description can be manufactured for as low a sum as 25 francs.

To those who do "not see why our modern To those winy our mouern architectural carvers cannot reproduce an ancient congeries of mouldings," say from a doorway, arcade, string-course, window, band, or the like, we commend the following passage from the discourse lately delivered by the Dean of Ely at Wisbeach: "Prof. Willis invented the Cymograph, an instrument for obtaining correct drawings from the mouldings of Gothic architecture. It is not very easy to do this, as any one will perceive who nembers how deeply undercut and hollowed out many of those mouldings are.....He had long been struck by the contrast of effect between ancient struck by the contrast of effect between ancient work and modern work which professed to be merely an imitation of the old. Now, when the two came to be fairly laid side by side on paper, by help of the cymograph, what was the difference between them? Just this, that in the case of the ancient work the lines of the mouldings had been drawn by the artist with a free hand, whereas, in the modern, every curve was a circle struck with a compass. The ancient architect went by the rule of brains, the modern by the rule of thumb; and I well remember the perplexity caused by this distinction to a very clever and competent man, who, for a time, superintended the restoration of the Ely lantern. Mr. Scott had asked him to make working drawings of the old stone work outside of the lattern, and the good man attempted to do so according to modern rules of Art; but, to his dismay, he could find no centres from which to strike his circles, and every modern rule of stone-work was ruthlessly set at defiance." It is by the hands of mch men as this that we expect the "exact restora-tion" of ancient Gothic work. To such have been intrusted some of the most beautiful and artwealthy medieval works, and so intrusted by men who would be ashamed to place the mouldings of a Greek temple in such hands, and would as 800n think of restoring the Tower of Babel or the Parthenon, and would not even venture to touch the coarse Roman and essentially vulgar decorations of the Colosseum. Such is the effect of education,—such the effect of ignorance in the

We suggest to the magnates of counties, and others interested in local history, the desirability of gathering, say in the Guildhalls of their principal towns, the innumerable portraits that are scattered in so many country-seats and houses. The fact is, so terrific have been the exposures of errors as to portraiture, and so ludicrous the blunders in naming the artists of countless pictures now at the National Portrait Exhibition, that every-body's "ancestors" on canvas are "suspect," as the French Revolutionary term was. Several heads have already fallen before the critics, and considerable knowledge of the history of Art in this country has been obtained by the last-named collection. It would be useful if some competent person were employed to gather the opinions of experts on this subject and make a report.

M. Marey has communicated to the Paris Academy of Sciences the description of a very ingenious instrument, which he calls a myograph, for exhibiting the vibrations of the muscles of the human body, and especially when under the influence of fatigue.

A series of interesting experiments have lately been made in Paris, having reference to the preservation of meat by paraffin. The results are, that if meat be plunged in a bath of paraffin at a temperature of 300°, and subsequently in other baths of paraffin at a lower temperature, it will keep perfectly fresh for a great length of time.

Prof. Aufrecht, of Edinburgh, has been for some time engaged on a complete Glossary to the Rig-Veda, which has at length gone to press. It will be published in six quarto Parts, and the price of the whole will, it is believed, not exceed 36s. The full title is, 'A Complete Glossary to the Rig-Veda, with Constant Reference to the Atharva Veda.' Intending subscribers may send their names to Messrs. Williams & Norgate.

Messrs. Wilhams & Norgate.

The Paris Academy of Sciences has received a report from M. Fouqué, whom they sent to investigate the volcanic phenomena at Neo-Kaimeni. F. Fouqué states that he has discovered the crater of Methana described by Strabo, and that he found at Sansaki a cave possessing all the properties of the Grotto del Cane, near Naples. He has also ascertained that the whole western portion of the island is volcanic, and in a state of great activity.

A publication by the Statistical Office of the Kingdom of Italy, gives some interesting notices on the Italian dialects.—"The Italian dialects, not alone from the historical but principally from a philological point of view, may be classed into six families, in which classification, however, the subdialects of foreign origin are not counted; the dialects spoken in Venetia, Friuli and Corsica have likewise been omitted, although of Italian origin, but being under foreign government. Firstly, the family of the Italian-Celtic dialects, which are spoken in the province of Turin (with the exception of the district of Aosta and some valleys of the Graian Alps) and in the provinces of Cunco, Alessandria (excepting the district of Novi), Novara, Milan, Pavia, Bergamo, Brescia, Cremona, Piacenza, Parma, Modena, Reggio, Bologna, Ferrara, Ravenna, Forh as far as the Foglia and towards Pessaro—to which may be still added the canton of Tesino, where a Milanian sub-dialect is spoken, the eastern valleys of the Tridentinum, where a Brescian sub-dialect is spoken, and the province of Montova; on the whole a territory with more than 8,000,000 of inhabitants. Secondly, the family of the Ligurian dialects, which are spoken, with numerous varieties in the pronunciation, all along the coast of Genoa, Mentone to Sarzana, that is, in the provinces of Genoa and Porto Maurizio, and besides in the district of Novi; on the whole by 800,000 inhabitants. Thirdly, the family of the Tuscan-Roman dialects, which are divided into the three types of the Tuscan, the Umbrian and the Marchipisanian; they are spoken in the provinces of Florence, Pisa, Arezzo, Siena, Grosseto, Umbria, and in the greater part of the former Marches of Ancona; this territory, inclusive of that under Papal Government, contains about 4,000,000 inhabitants. Fourthly, the family of the Neapolitan dialects, among which is prominent

the dialect of the Abruzzi, that of the Pula, and the Neapolitan or Campaniard Proper. These dialects are spoken in the three Abruzzi, the Terra di Lavoro, the two Principali, the provinces of Naples, Benevent, Molire, Capitanata, Terra di Basi, Terra d'Otranto and the Basilicata, together with 6,000,000 of inhabitants. Fifthly, the family of the Sicilian dialects, rich in varieties, but with two principal types, the Calabresian and the Sicilian, spoken by more than 3,000,000 of inhabitants. And, sixthly, the family of the Sardinian dialects, which fall in the two branches of the Campidanese and the Sugudunese, and which are spoken by more than half a million of inhabitants. Considering the number of the speakers, the Celtic dialects, of foreign origin or relationship, would have to be placed in the first rank. But the groups of the Tuscan-Roman dialects maintain their superiority, inasmuch as the life of the nation has its root in them, draws its nourishment from them, and also because the other Italian dialects, as the Venetian, which has not been taken here into consideration, the Neapolitan and the Sicilian, are much nearer related to the Tuscan-Roman than to the Celtic type.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—The EVENING EXHIBITION will COMMERCE on MONDAY NEXT, the 25th instant, and continue open every Evening.—Admission (from Half-past Seven till Half-past Ten), 6d.; Catalogue, 6d.
JUHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The Sixty-second Annual EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mail East close to the National Gallery, from Nine till Seven.—Admittance, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The Thirty-second Annual EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace, daily, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

FRENCH GALLERY, 120, Pall Mall.—The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of PICTURES, the Contributions of Artists of the French and Flemish Schools, 18 NOW OPEN, admitting also to HOLMAN HUNT'S PICTURE, 'The Finding of the Saviour in the Temple.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT EXHIBITION, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, is NOW OPEN to the Public. Admission, on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 1s. each person; Tuesdays, 2s. 6d. Hours from Ten A.M. tillSix Fux. Season Tickets, it. each. Catalogues, is. and 1s. 6d.

A. MACCALLUM'S LARGE PICTURES of Sherwood Forest, and the Charlemagne Oak, Fontainebleau, with Studies of Woodland, Lake, Glader, and Italian Subjects, are now EXHIBITED in the DUDLEY GALLERY, Expytian Hall, Piccadilly. Open from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 64.

MR. MORBY'S COLLECTION of MOJLEN HIGH-CLASS PICTURES is ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts Gallery, 94, Corabill. This Collection contains examples of Holman Hunt-J. Phillip, R.A.—F. Faed, R.A.—J. Lewis, R.A.—Holden, R.A.—Conderon, R.A.—Conderon, R.A.—Conderon, R.A.—Conderon, A.R.A.—Sant, A.R.A.—Le Jenne, A.R.A.—Cadleton, A.R.A.—Sant, A.R.A.—Le Jenne, A.R.A.—Conderon, A.R.A.—Sant, A.R.A.—Le Jenne, A.R.A.—Cooper, A.R.A.—P. Nool, A.R.A.—Phost, A.R.A.—Yennes, A.R.A.—P. Nool, A.R.A.—Pether H. R.R.A.—Yennes, A.R.A.—Cooper, A.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Professor Pepper's Lecture daily at Three and Eight includes the Kaledoscope, and Pepper and Tobin's wonderful illusions, "The Cherubs Floating in the Air," "The Modern Delphic Oracle," varied by the rectains of F. Damer Cape, Esq., in the Illusive Scene, entitled "Shakespeare and his Creations."

SCIENCE

Rocks Classified and Described. A Treatise on Lithology. By Bernhard von Cotta. An English Edition, by Philip Henry Lawrence. (Longmans & Co.)

Notwithstanding the popularity which geology has enjoyed for a long series of years, and the large number of students who have, hammer in hand, been exploring the rocks which form the crust (all that we know, indeed) of the earth, no consistent and comprehensive system of rock classification has yet been produced. There are two reasons why this is the case. The attractive character of paleontology, with its wonderful revelations of a succession of organized forms,—each differing in the most remarkable manner from the other, and yet each presenting the most perfect adaptation to the conditions of its existence,—has led to an almost entire neglect of the study of rocks in their mineral relations. Then, theoretical views on the mode of rock formation—the students of one section assuming

the almost universal operation of fire, while those of the other section, with equal persistence, strive to extend the mechanical action of water in wearing down old forms and building up new ones-have certainly tended to retard that inductive examination of rocks which alone can lead to the production of any satisfactory

system of lithology.

In addition to those two causes, which we conceive to have been the most active in obstructing or retarding the study of rock formations in their physical and chemical relations. there has been, without doubt, another influential cause, that is, the confusion existing in the popular mind as to the bearing of sciences of mineralogy, geology, and lithology upon each other. That these departments of knowledge are closely allied must be admitted; but still, although members of the same family, they have a separate existence. Mineralogy, for example, studies the forms assumed by inorganic matter in relation to the chemical constitution of the body under examination. It devotes its powers to the determination of individual and independent masses of matter. Lithology has for its field the infinite variety of conditions produced by the combinations of those individual, and, as mineralogy considers them, independent, forms, in their aggregation into rock-masses; while geology treats of the minerals, and of the rocks formed by them, as associated in the structure of the earth.

Of the three sciences lithology has received the smallest amount of attention. It is, perhaps, the most difficult. The changes which can be made by the intercombination, in varying proportions, of a few proximate elements, will be readily understood. But the infinite variety found in the works of Nature, far exceeding any system of interchange which the chemist can devise, producing endless shades of difference in rock-masses, appears to preclude any satisfactory system of classifi-

Prof. Cotta has performed a good service in his attempt to classify rocks; yet we cannot but feel that his classification is often open to the most serious objections. There is, as it appears to us, evidence of a want of that knowledge of chemical mineralogy, as dis-tinguished from crystallography, and of those physical phenomena which we group under the term Isomerism, without which it is not possible to arrange the rock formations into any system of order. This is evident in those chapters which treat of the "Physical Structure of Rocks," and especially in those sections which deal with laminated texture, slaty which deal with mininted texture, sany structure and cleavage. Indeed, although the views of Sorby and Tyndall are named, but spoken of as if they were identical, the experimental evidence of other physicists is neglected as if it was unknown; and the speculations of a few geologists are loosely given at the same time as we are told they "appear to us improbable,"-and the whole subject receives no elucidation.

In dealing with the special forms of external structure, Prof. Cotta's descriptions are sufficiently exact, and will materially guide the student in his observations. The thoughtful mind will, however, seek in vain for any explanation of the causes which have induced those "special forms." It will be said, with much truth, that great ignorance prevails upon the operation of the cohesive forces which, under the direction of some law of polarity, determines the rock conditions. We do not seek a solution of the numerous problems involved in the consideration of this subject; but we do desire to know something of the

and experiments have given us. In Prof. Cotta's | book we do not find even a record of any of these. Useful references to papers published in the German and French journals are given, under each section; and there is a painstaking anxiety manifested everywhere to arrive, "as far as may be possible, at a common ground for all notions in respect of the important matter

of rock nomenclature."

We have read with close attention and much interest the "Observations on the Processes of Rock Formation in Nature." These are concise, clear and satisfactory,—excepting that there is an exceedingly strong bias in favour of the igneous theories, which, under the terms of Plutonic and Hydroplutonic, are made to explain all the phenomena, not merely of the trappean and granitic rocks, but of all that series of rock formations which, although series of rock formations which, although evidently of a sedimentary origin, are metamorphic in character, and even of mineral veins, of which Prof. Cotta says, "their origin appears, almost without exception, to have been hydroplutonic." This, be it remembered, in the face of the accumulated evidence which proves that these formations can be produced by cold water holding, as salts, in solution the substances which we find accumulated, and which, in many cases, we see accumulating in the fissures of the inclosing

This is not the place to discuss these questions. We have alluded to them because, in the only book in the English language devoted to lithology, we desired to find a more philosophical examination of the subject. Prof. Cotta has, however, done good service; and Mr. P. H. Lawrence deserves much credit for the labour he has given to the translation of an exceedingly difficult work, and for the admirable manner in which he has completed it,

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—June 14.—General Sabine, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On the Anatomy of the Fovea Centralis of the Human Retina,' by Mr. J. W. Hulke.—'Second Memoir on Plane Stigmatics,' by Mr. A. J. Ellis. - 'Fundamental Views regarding Mechanics,' by Prof. Plücker .- 'Contributions to Terrestrial Magnetism, No. 10,' by General Sabine.

STATISTICAL .- June 19 .- W. Farr, Esq., M.D., in the chair. — The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Sir J. Peter Grant, Messrs. H. B. Ince, W. H. Thomas, and W. C. Wilson.-The Duke of Argyll read a paper, 'On the Economic Condition of the Highlands of Scotland. The following are the facts and conclusions which the noble author arrived at with regard to the past and present economic condition of the Highlands: 1st, That before the end of the last of the civil wars the condition of the population was one of extreme poverty and frequent destitution, 2nd, That on the close of these wars and the establishment of a settled government, there was, during half a century, a rapid increase of population. 3rd, That this increase was out of all proportion to the means of subsistence. 4th, That the introduction of potato cultivation increased the evil of a rapid increase in population without any corresponding increase skill or industry. 5th, That the emigration the Highlanders arose as a necessity out of this condition of things and was in itself the first step towards improvement. 6th, That the introduction of sheep-farming was a pure gain, not tending to diminish the area of tillage where tillage is desirable, and turning to use, for the first time, a large part of the whole area of the country, which was formerly absolutely waste. 7th. That for the old bad cultivation of small crofters there has been substituted for the most part a middle class of tenantry, thriving, holding under lease, and exhibiting all the conditions of agriculindications which the sciences of observation tural prosperity. 8th, That the displacement of

population by the introduction of great capitalists holding farms of very large value has not taken place in the Highland counties to an extent nearly place in the Highland countries of the place in some equal to that in which it has taken place in some equal to that in which it has taken place in some equal to that in which it has taken place in some equal to that it is some equal to the place in th process which has been going on in the Highland counties of a diminution in the population of the rural districts is the same process which has, long ago, been accomplished in the other counties of Scotland, and in England. 10th, That in their case it was also deplored under the same economic fallacies—fallacies which are now applied only to the Highlands, because the process is not completed. 11th, That the prosperity of the Highlands will only be complete when the process shall have been completed also. 12th, That no part of Scotland, considering the late period at which improvement began, has advanced so rapidly, or given, within an equal space of time, so large and so solid an addition to the general wealth of the

ZOOLOGICAL .- June 12 .- Dr. J. E. Gray, V.P., ZOOLOGICAL.—June 12.—Dr. J. E. Gray, I. E. in the chair.—A communication was read from Dr. H. Dohrn, 'On the Birds of Prince's Island, in the Bight of Benin, West Africa,' being founded on personal observations made during a recent exploration of that island. The species enumerated by Dr. Dohrn as met with him in that locality were thirty-four in number, amongst which were several new to science.—A communication was read from Mr. J. Couch, giving an account of the occurrence of Ausonia Cuvieri, a fish new to the British Fauna, on the coast of Cornwall.—Dr. Günther contributed some notes on the anatomy of the same fish, which presented several very noticeable peculiarities.—Dr. J. Murie gave an account of a singular case of malformation in the generative organs of a heifer, which had been recently transmitted to the Society by Mr. G. Latimer, of Porto Rico.—Dr. Murie also read some supplementary notes on the red-bellied monkey (Cercopithecus erythrogaster), a new species founded by Dr. Gray upon an animal lately living in the Society's menagerie.—Dr. Gray communicated some notes by Lieut. C. F. F. Annesley, R.A., 'On the Habits of the Mantis Crab (Gonodactylus chivagra) in Captivity, as observed by that gen-tleman at Aden.—Mr. A. D. Bartlett made some remarks on the singular bird of prey lately transmitted from Damaraland by Mr. Andersson, and described by Mr. Gurney as Stringonyx Andersoni, and suggested its identity with the Machaerhamphus alcinus, described some years previously by Mr. Westerman, but stated, probably erroneously, by the latter author to have been received from Malacca.—A joint paper was read by Messrs. A.R. Wallace and F. Moore, 'On a Collection of Lepidopterous Insects obtained in Formosa by Mr. Swinhoe,'—Mr. H. W. Bates read a paper 'On the Coleopterous Insects obtained by Mr. Swinhoe in the same Country.'

CHEMICAL.—June 7.—Dr. W. A. Miller, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows, namely, Messrs. W. Arnot, E. H. Davis, W. F. Flowers, C. Wilson and C. R. A. Wright.—The papers read were:

'On the Oxidation Products of the Propione product for Carbonia Oxida and Sedium Ethel.' by duced from Carbonic Oxide and Sodium-Ethyl, by Prof. J. A. Wanklyn.—'A Preliminary Notice on Phthalic Aldehyde,' by Prof. H. Kobe and Mr. G. Wirchen.—'On the Preparation of Chrysammic Acid,' by Dr. J. Stenhouse and Dr. H. Müller.— 'On Chrysammic Ether,' by Dr. J. Stenhouse.—
'On the Platinum Bases, the best Mode of obtaining and identifying them,' by Mr. E. A. Hadow.—
'On some Decompositions of Nitrite of Amyl,' by Mr. E. T. Chapman .- 'On a Cyanogen Derivative of Marsh Gas, by Mr. H. Bassett. - Mr. A. Vernon Harcourt delivered a lecture 'On the Observation of the Course of Chemical Change.'

MATHEMATICAL .- June 18 .- Prof. De Morgan, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Members: Rev. F. Harrison, Rev. G. S. Ward, Prof. W. S. Jevons, Messrs. W. K. Clifford, W. Esson, F. H. Fisher, and I. Todhunter.—Mr. Spottiswoode made some remarks upon a problem of probabilities connected with Nº 201 parliament me prop ME

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parliamentary elections; and Mr. T. Cotterill gave some properties of cubic curves.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mes. Geographical, 84.—'Explorations on the Atbara, Abyasian, Mr. Baker.

Tell Message of the Atbara, Abyasian, Mr. Baker.

Fethnological, 8.—'Remarkable Archaeological Discoveries, Ireland, Sir J. Lubbock; "Ancient Manufacture of Stone Implements at Pressigny," Prof. Steenstrup and Sir J. Lubbock.

Zoological, 81.—'A Lubbock "Andreal Snakes," Mr. Krefft; Wr. Society of Arts, 4.—Annual General Meeting.

Sat. Botanic, 31.

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PINE ARTS

Essays on Art. By F. T. Palgrave. (Mac-

millan & Co.) THE author of this book distinguished himself as an Art-critic more than a dozen years ago, as an Art-critic more than a dozen years ago, by means of the elaborate and discriminating essay, 'On the First Century of Italian En-gaving,' which is appended to the Italian 'Kugler.' He has since that time become popularly known by many disquisitions on subjects current in the Art-world, and especially by the Handbook to the Fine-Art Collections of the International Exhibition, of four years since. The volume now before us comprises a selection of papers contributed to the Saturday selection of papers controlled to the Saturdary
Review and other less popular publications. As
these papers undoubtedly exhibit earnestness,
sound knowledge of the theory of Art, and
severe esthetic taste, their author has done
well in putting them into an independent and concrete form, and, better still, by bestowing much of conscientious care in revision as was needed to take off what may be called the "burr" of their original mintage, reducing, by the same means, some of the effects of that heat which seems inevitable to rapid production, when the coin is intended for immediate service. The aim of this revision -which has been effected in some cases almost to the extent of reconstruction-has principally been, says Mr. Palgrave, to exclude mat-ters of temporary interest, and to soften down those asperities of censure, a bias towards which is one of the most frequently besetting sins of anonymous literature. We think this bias need be less powerful than men suppose; there is much, as we shall show, to be said on the other side, which is independent of the critic's temperament, and beyond his control when treating of pictures and other works of Art. Undoubtedly, also, the Art-critic has to deal mdely, as it may be, with much work that is merely "made to sell" by persons who, whatever their reputations and professional positions, are actually tradesmen engaged in the manufacture of "pot-boilers," not artists at all, nor worthy to be treated as such. Hence the "distinguished painter," the "modern Hogarth," or "Raphael,"—such are favourite phrases for those who catch the fancy of the hour,—is mostly at feud with the too candid aide, which is independent of the critic's hour,-is mostly at feud with the too candid

The writer seeks—and, we are bound to say, performs his purpose—to illustrate the truths of Art by examples taken chiefly from the works of contemporaries. The task is too often ungracious; usually an ungrateful and painful one. Every Art-critic feels this, probably with more intensity because, from the very nature and limits of the field of his duty, he is debayed from a probability of the state of the state of the state. nature and limits of the field of his duty, he is debarred from employing those qualifying and generalizing means of expression which are open to the choice of the strictly literary critic who has, when dealing with books that have not occupied, as it may be, so large a portion of an author's life as a picture fills in the career of a painter, to deal in a few curt sentences with that which could, if otherwise produced, be treated without those apparently violent contrasts of light and shade in criticism. Hence

Art-criticism is generally Rembrandtish in its | effects; for who, unless the subject were of extraordinary interest, would dream of reading, say, two or three of our columns which might be devoted to a single painting or statue? Hence the exercise of criticism of this sort demands consideration for the writer, no less than for the artist whose work is under consideration. There is the great advantage in studying revised opinions, such as this volume contains, that their author has not been held by a few lines of type, and can give to his expressions all that care and well-balanced phrases render.

LANDSCAPE ARTISTS AND THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THERE is loud complaint among the landscape-painters with regard to their position in the Royal Academy, and the manner in which, too frequently, the higher-class pictures of their order, especially those by the younger men, are dealt with by the

managers.

As respects the former of these matters, when it is said that the academic body of forty-two artists, the R.A.s proper, comprises not more than three (even if we include Mr. Stanfield) who practise painting in landscape,—and there is but one Associate, Mr. T. S. Cooper, who has any pretensions to that title, although he is essentially an animalpainter,—it will be evident that there is not only reason in the reclamations to which we refer, but small chance of an immediate remedy from the hands of a society which comprises so large a proportion of men whose interests lead them to prefer figure-painting to that sister branch of Art in which this country is generally believed to be pre-eminent. It really appears as if the honour that was won for the Academy by Turner, Constable, and others of the last generation, has but small chance of being sustained in future. Notwithstanding the recent unprecedented opportunity for standing the recent unprecedented opportunity for supplying the deficiency in question, by the election of one or more of the new Associates from among the landscapists, no advantage has been taken of the opening; but the former disparity between the two developments of Art has been increased by the choice of four figure-painters. So marked is the preference given by the dominant figure-painters to their brethren that it is alleged, with undeniable truth, that since the election of Mr. Creswick as an Associate, in 1842,—that is, twenty-four years ago (after which he waited nine years for the full honour he worthly holds),—but one artist in landscape, if Mr. E. W. Cooke can strictly be called such, has been admitted within the ranks of the body. the ranks of the body.

Our friends and correspondents among the thus our friends and correspondents among due that neglected branch of the profession allege that it has become the rule, with very few exceptions, to make landscape give way to figure, as if it was so inferior a branch of the art that any figure-picture had a prior claim to a good place. Those so inferior a branch of the art that any figurepicture had a prior claim to a good place. Those
who can recollect the landscapes at the late Exhibitions of the Academy must know that this is
the fact. Is this from that want of space which
the President, in his late speech, alleged to be the
chief reason for that enmity which he admitted
to exist with regard to the institution? Does it
not rather mean that, "when we have allotted space to the figure-subjects, then we will see what can be done with the landscapes"? The great body of landscapists in England have long felt that the Academy can no longer pretend to represent their art, and that, were it not for the outlet which the Water-Colour Societies have afforded our landscapepainters, our best men of that class would have

famous picture by this artist, 'The Gravel Pit,' which is known as one of the prime modern honours of the English school, was hung near the ceiling in one of the outer rooms, and, consequently, was returned unsold from the Exhibition. Not was returned unsout room the Exhibition. Not many years afterwards he sold this work for 1,000 guineas. One of Mulready's early pictures—a land-scape, now in the national collection—was returned to him, although of a small size, as not worthy of a place among the many hundreds of now-forgotten figure pictures which were then held most worthy, and shared the wall-space with no one knows how many portraits which are equally waste.

MR. MACCALLUM'S PICTURES.

AT the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, may be found a series of landscapes, by Mr. A. Maccallum, which present a problem to the critic. It is wonderful how well, or rather how effective, they look from a distance and at a first glance; also, how rapidly that impression subsides from the mind of one who concentrates attention on their intellectual and technical values, and remains on the spot where they first caught his eye. In a very few minutes, even, the brilliant aspect of the canvases, their lighting and colouring, become painful. Why these qualities of landscape-painting so soon shock the sense dawns on the mind of the observer as he looks and proves, although such proof is not needed, that mere brilliancy and effectiveness, potent lighting and high colouring activities glive the the way have at least the -notwithstanding that they may have at least the appearance of the most elaborate finish to aid in appearance of the most elaborate finish to aid in charming the student—are maught without that art which appeals to the mind, and is beyond and deeper than the eye. In this sense, as in all others, it appears that the critic "does not live by bread alone." What one misses is the heart of the painter; this is more to be deplored than even his lack of Art. Take Lago Maggiore (No. 6). There is the place, probably, just as we might see it in a mirror, but nothing more. Not instinct with human insight, it seems painted to no purpose but to mock; it has the effectiveness, but not the soundness, of a photograph,—some of the splendour of Nature, but not her mystery or her sweetness. The result of such a distant examination is the same from all the pictures, be it the Rome, from Ine result of such a distant examination is the same from all the pictures, be it the Rome, from Monte Mario, (5)—evening glowing through the mist of river lowlands,—Monte Rosa (7), The Marjelen See (8),—where, like a cliff, the great glacier stands, with its feet in the water, which is at once its own destruction and debris, and is swept by clouds and overlooked by mighty changeless mountain tops,—The Vanyuard of the Forest, (10)—oaks in bland English daylight,—or the beautiful dawn over The Gorge aux Loups at Fontaine-

How by these pictures one is impressed with an idea of deceit in Art is not at first forced upon the mind by knowledge that, if their pretensions to mind by knowledge that, if their pretensions to literalfidelity and extreme elaboration were honestly supported, here is the work of two long lives on thirty-five great canvases representing many different parts of the world, which are, however, the productions of one man who is yet in the prime of life, and probably not all he has done. This thought comes afterwards. The dominant idea of the student is their strange vacuity as works of art, so that, beyond the pretence of reflecting Nature, — which a looking-glass will do better, — there is not a trace of imagination in them, or of that mysterious pathetic feeling which allies Art with harmony, "and overtakes far thought with music that it makes,"—naught but lifeless, heardless glitter on a shallow mental pool. One finds so little here that it soon becomes doubtful if the painter comprehends Art at all, and is not really doing his best at copying what he sees but does not feel. Here is Dennerism, not only without the vulgarity of Denner, but also without his merely mechanical fidelity; here is what Mr. John Brett paints, without the intense prose of that able executant, but, at the same time, without that indomitable, uncompromising love, that unspeakable fidelity and super-delicacy of painting, which—whatever be his themes, 'Glacier of Rosenlani' or 'Calf gambolling in a Meadow'—make us represent and be grateful to him and almost queries. literal fidelity and extreme elaboration were honestly

the commonest matters. Mr. Brett is not a poet in the ordinary sense of the term, but an admirable prose-painter, who often produces, simply because he is loyal, that which is profoundly pathetic, and therefore poetical. Mr. Maccallum, on the other hand, is capable of making pictures of a sort which captivate the shallow by means of their shallowness, and of putting his material on the canvas with a dexterity of which Mr. Brett is

perfectly innocent. If we move from our standing-place at a distance from any one of these pictures to a point that is near enough to admit an examination of its handling and details, the whole of the problem as to their nature is resolved, an explanation of the secret of their number as the work of one man is obtained, and the mystery of their antipathetic character is unveiled. Their apparent elaboration is a sham: all has been sacrificed to brilliancy. Even a mirror would mechanically reflect truly all the details of a view; but Mr. Maccallum, with the utmost pretence of fidelity, does not even draw the foreshortening of a leaf with delicacy, express the roundness of a tree-trunk in its contour, or with loyalty and solidity model a bough, a rock or an ice-cleft. Lago Maggiore (6) vanishes into mere paint cleverly employed so as to produce the appearance without the toil of finish; Rome (5) melts to a series of smears, not boldly and honestly employed, as in scene-painting, but craftily getting the look of the things depicted, without their substance, mossed foregrounds, boughs, trees, grass, rocks, water, clouds, buildings, animals are alike pretendingly done, in a manner which is very different from that of scene-painting, still more so from the luminous subtlety of Rembrandt, where five seeming dashes of brown and white depict a

OTTLEY'S SUPPLEMENT OF PAINTERS.

Mr. Ottley has written to confess his errors, to charge his publisher, and square accounts with his critic. We gave twenty-five names, including those of MM. Duverger, Signol, Rethel, F. Danby, E. B. Jones, S. Palmer, and Nesfield,—upon the propriety of including which in such a book there cannot be two opinions. As to Mr. Maclise's pictures of 'Alfred in the Danish Camp' and 'The Marriage of Strongbow,'—which Mr. Ottley, under correction, that they are not where he said they are, declares, "if they are not already in the Royal Gallery, Westminster, everybody knows that they are intended to be placed there,"—are not even in existence! Moreover, the only Irish subject which Mr. Maclise was appointed to execute in the Royal Gallery was not 'The Marriage of Eva,' but 'Brian Boroimhe overcoming the Danes at the Bridge of Clontart': so says the Blue Book, May 31, 1861.

Mr. Ottley on Mr. Maclise is inexhaustible of error. Thus, the artist is said to have exhibited his first picture at the Academy in 1832. We, however, find him as painter of No. 961 in 1829, 'Malvolio affecting the Count,'—and exhibiting seven pictures in 1830, five in 1831. Mr. Ottley is silent about 'The Death of Nelson,' although that work has now been finished for some time, and was in hand three years ago. He tells us the 'Wellington and Blucher' is in the "Peers' Gallery," i.e. in a field for decoration which has no existence except in Mr. Ottley's imagination. This is a wonderful blunder. 'The Ordeal of the Touch' should be 'The Ordeal by Touch' (R.A., 1846). M. Leys's noteworthy and gigantic task at Antwerp can hardly be spoken of as "about to be." It is not only one of the most interesting facts in modern Art, and entirely omitted in this volume, but so little recent that the painter gave a full description of the series of works in question, in a pamphlet now before us, which is dated "Anvers, le 5 Juin, 1862."

As to Mr. Birket Foster's name, our author has made one of the most extraordinary messes upon record in stating his conclusions when the artist communicated that the name of his father was "Birket, and that of his mother Foster." What Mr. Foster wrote was, that he was the son of Myles Birket (Foster) and Ann Foster. According to his practice, if John, the son of John Thomas

and Ann Smith wrote to say that such was his parentage, Mr. Ottley would insist upon calling him "John-Thomas."

Can it be truly said that M. Ingres' 'La Source' represented "a young girl, innude, bearing a picture (sic) of water on her shoulder"? Why are such prime works of M. Gérôme as the 'Phryne unveiled,' 'Death of Cæsar,' 'Cæsar Dead,' and 'The Gladiators,' omitted from the list of his labours? Mr. J. Pye is not the "son of an engraver of the same name." He is a member of the French Institute, although Mr. Ottley does not seem to know that fact. It is not "sufficient" to say of Mr. J. H. Robinson that he "has been elected an Associate Engraver of the Royal Academy." The engraver of 'The Wolf and the Lamb,' and a host of other admirable works, demands honourable mention of the highest class, instead of three and a half cold lines in a book which comprises a hundred unknown headings, and devotes whole pages to unimportant artists such as we have before named.

We have already pointed out some of Mr. Ottley's omissions of worthy men; to these may be added, as the results of a second brief and cursory examination of the volume which is so recklessly allied to the worthy work of Stanley and Bryan, Madame H. Browne, MM. Laemlein, Chavet, Lambinet, Fichel, Laugée, Hébert, W. Davis, John Gibson, W. H. B. Davis, J. Brett, H. Gas-tineau, J. Archer, A.R.A., R. Carrick, H. Dawson, W. Delamotte, Parris, E. Lear, J. Graham Gilbert, H. S. Marks, G. Mason, H. Moore, A. Moore, J. Severn, F. Smallfield, H. J. Whaite, J. Wolf, J. Severn, F. Smallheid, H. J. Whate, J. Wolf, S. Solomon, W. Ward (engraver), E. Goodall, G. Dodgson, A. P. Newton, Plassan, Jules Breton, Eugène Fromentin, De Dreux, J. L. Hamon, C. Meryon, S. Haden, L. Knaus, A. Stevens, F. Willems, T. Couture, H. G. Hine, Israëls, J. F. F. Willems, T. Couture, H. G. Hine, Israels, J. F. Höckert, Mdlle. Lindgren, Exner, Sorensen, H. Hansen, R. Hills, J. B. Allen (engraver), J. C. Armytage, Jeavons, C. H. Jeans, T. O. Barlow, F. Bromley, Bertinot (French engraver), Henriquel-Dupont, Martinet, Laurens, Desmaisons, Leroux, Z. Prévost, A. Bellay, Petrak, C. M. F. Dieu, F. Forster, &c. Of incorrect and intermediate to the control of the control o incomplete statements we may give the following in addition. W. Brockedon's birthday was the 13th of October; that of Mr. T. S. Cooper, the 26th of September. "Mr. Falsco," D. Cox's early aide, was "Mr. Palser." Robert Cox, p. 40, should be "David Cox." Mr. Dobson is not named as A.R.A. Etty's 'Youth at Plough' should be 'Youth at the Prow.' C. Fielding's names should include that of Anthony, he was born in 1787, not 1788; he was not elected President of the Water-Colour Society" on the death of Cristall, but in 1832. "Christall," p. 67, should be "Cristall." The statement of C. Fielding's election is inconsistent with what appears under "Cristall," p. 41. "Thalabar" (p. 63) should be "Thalaba." "Vischer," was not elected President of the Water-Colour twice on p. 23, should be "Visscher." Grant is not named as Trustee of the National Portrait Gallery. Mr. S. Hart does not "still retain" the Professorship of Painting in the Academy, although he is Librarian to that institution. The notice of Mr. Millais as an artist would be illiberal in any book, much more so is it in be illiberal in any book, nucle more so lead a Dictionary. "The Battle' was not painted by Mulready, p. 122, although Mr. Sandby might have told Mr. Ottley so much. This artist did not paint 'The Cousin,' p. 122, in 1827, or at any other time. Our Correspondent's mistakes of this sort are infinite. Turner of Oxford died, not in 1840, but in 1862. Who is the "Stoddart J. M. Wright is said to admire; another state ment in the article on this artist, to which we will not give greater currency, is not true. Mr. E. M. Ward's portrait of O. Smith was not at the British Artists' Exhibition, but at that of the Royal Academy. Mr. Ottley still "believes" that Mr. Doo's engraving from 'The Raising of Lazarus' is in progress. Our author is sometimes jocular, or seems to e so; for of M, S. J. Rochard it is quaintly said, "he always did a little in picture dealing." This may be true, because he sold the so-called "Holbein" to the National Gallery, April, 1845, for 630*l.*, about half of which sum was offered to him on condition of his taking the precious work back

again. This "Holbein" has since disappeared from the National Gallery. Mr. Ottley's English is sometimes of startling character. The notice of Madame Soyer is a fine example of higgledy-pig-gledy. We observe, however, nothing to surpass the following, about Mr. W. Evans, of Eton: "O'law years his time has been much broken by ill-health, arising from an accident in fracturing the upper jaw, and which induced some attacks of neuralga, and also by attention to his duties at Eton.

I regret to find that, in the letter you were kind enough to insert last week, I was guilty of a serious mistake in the case of Mr. Birket Foster, through a mis-reading of information with which that eminent artist is the youngest son of Myles Birket Foster, his mother's maiden name being King; and therefore, as your reviewer implied, he ought to have appeared amongst the Fs, and not amongst the Bs. The article itself, however, is correct in every particular. I ought to apologize both to Mr. Foster and yourself for this very stupid blunder. HENRY OTHEY.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.

AT a meeting of the Royal Academy, held on Monday evening last, Baron Marochetti and Mr. Richmond were elected full Members. Mr. O'Nei had fourteen votes. On the question which related to the site at Burlington House, it was almost unanimously decided to decline the offer of the Government and to withhold further consideration of the subject of removal until after the expected debate in the House of Commons, which affects not only the future of the Academy, but that of Burlington House and the National Gallery. As soon as the plans of the proposed new buildings at Burlington House are ready, the debate in question will take place.

The Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Art-Union Law has been published, together with the minutes of evidence on the subject, as given by Messrs. Bucknall, J. Pelham, jun., H. Cole, R. Redgrave, M. A. Hayes, G. Godwin, H. Waddington, W. Agnew, W. P. Frith, and Prof. Donaldson.

If Temple Bar is to be pulled down, as we hope may be the case, it will be a pity to destroy it. Why not re-erect it in Victoria Park, where architectural features are wanting? It has been proposed to place the memorial of blood on Kennington Common—we beg pardon—Kennington Park, where there are associations of like character. It is not worth keeping for its architecture; but as the last representative, however corrupt, of the ancient gates, it ought not to be sold for old materials; originally only chains and posts were placed on the site it occupies. There is not room for it at Kennington.

Fairfax House, at Putney, is about to be pulled

The obituary of this week announces the death, on the 8th inst., of William Bewick, son of the famous draughtsman and engraver on wood, a pupil of Haydon, whom many students remember as wearing a large mass of ringlets, and being of singularly handsome appearance in his way. He was the model for the head of Lazarus, in the picture by his master Haydon, who frequently mentioned him in the 'Diary,' vol. ii. p. 34. He frequently made his appearance at the British Institution when the Cartoons were there: see 'Diary,' vol. iii. pp. 151, 152. Mr. Bewick was seventy age at the time of his death .- Another artist has departed within the last few days, being Mr. John Graham Gilbert, R.S.A., who was born in Glasgow, in 1794, studied in the Trustees' Academy under John Graham, and, after a long stay in Itsly, settled at home as a portrait-painter, in which branch of his profession he became known. Three of his portraits are in the National Gallery of Scotland, Nos. 20, 22, 110.

We are glad to learn that steps have been taken for the preservation of the steeple of St. Nicholas Church, Newcastle. Mr. G. G. Scott has presented a report on the condition of the structure, in which

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The buildings which obstructed the view of the east end of Carlisle Cathedral have now been removed. In the course of works to this end, ad that of clearing the ground near the edifice, thirty shafts of stone were discovered, which are aid to have belonged to the Early English clere-sory of the church that was greatly injured by fire in 1292. The shafts are supposed to have been put side, at that period, for future use.

Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods sold, on Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods sold, on Friday and Saturday last, the following pictures, the property of the late Mr. H. Farrer: Hogarth, Horace Walpole, in a landscape, near a sun-dial, Cupid pointing to the hour of ten, the age of Horace Walpole at the time he was painted, 213. (Ring),—J. W. Glass, The Last Return from Duty, portrait of the Duke of Wellington, engraved, 105.—Etry, Hylas carried away by the Nymphs, International Exhibition, 283l. (Archdale),—Reynolds, Lady Betty Foster, white dress, had feathers, 183l. (Pearce),—Canaletti, View of Venice, 106l. (Dyer),—Margharita Van Eyck, Adoration of the Magi, four subjects of the life of this at the sides, 127l. (Lewis Loyd),—Wouver-Adoration of the Magi, four subjects of the life of Christ at the sides, 127. (Lewis Loyd),—Wouvermans, The Sand Bank, 111. (G. Smith),—A. Van & Velde, A Calm (Smith's Catalogue, No. 208), 121. (Owen),—Canaletti, The Palazzo Grimani, Venice, 1261. (Anthony),—Van Musscher, Interior, 151. (E. Smith),—N. Berghem, An Italian Landsape, 1051. (L. Loyd),—Jan Steen, An Interior, two figures seated, boy with a dog standing near a suble, 3571. (Boord),—J. Ruysdael, Woody Landsape, water in foreground, figure, sheep and cattle, 4561. (Nieuwenhuys),—Lingelbach, The Port of Leghorn, 1474. (Owen),—Giotto, The Burial of the Virgin, 1781. (Ottley),—T. Della Vite, The Baptism of Christ, 2251. (Colnaghi),—Raphael, The Infant Christ, engraved by Mr. Doo, 4301. (Boord).

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL UNION.—Lubeck, Wicniawski, Auer, Piatti, Bles, Gafrie, Hann, Paque, &c., TUESDAY NEXT, June 26, Half-und Three.—Quartett, D major, Mendelssohn; Sonata, Pianoint, E flat, Op. 31, Beethoven; Double Quartett, E minor, Mr. Pianoforte Solos, Lubeck, &c.—Tinchets, Half-ad-ulmea and, at the nural places. Vintors giving their manes can pay. & James Hall. Director, J. Elila, 18, Hanorer Square.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, the Queen's Concert Rooms, Banere Square.—E10HTH and LAST CONCERT, June 35, at Engit c'clock.—Programme: Symphony in C (Mozart'; Concerto: à A minor (Schumann); Overture, Wood-nymh, (Bennett); Sinia Encica (Beethoven); Jubilee Overture (Weber.) Planiste, Rer Jaell. Vocalists, Mdllc. Tietjens and Herr Gunz.—Tickets at Limborn Cock & Co.'s, 63, New Bond Street.

CAMPBELL CLARKE, Sec., 24, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

Under the immediate Patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Sales, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, H.R.H. the Duchess of Wales, H.R.H. the Duchess of Wales, H.R.H. the Princess Mary of Cambridge.—Mr. ENNEDICT begs to announce his THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL GRAND MORNING CONCERT, at the St. James's Hall, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, June 37, to begin at Half-past One o'clock Resiely. The full Programme is now ready.—O'rebestra Stalls, and the Plano, 10s. 6d. each, and the few remaining Sofa Stalis and Beserved Seats, may affile of ecure by sarry applicable full residence of the Seats of the Seats

MR. JAMES LEA SUMMERS'S ANNUAL EVENING CONCEPT, under Distinguished Patronage, in Aid of The Association street General Welfare of the Blind, at 84. James's Hall, WEDESDAY, June 27, at Eight Colook. Vocalists: Madame Parepa, Sill: Enquist, Miss Edith Wynne, and Mr. Joseph Hemings Sill: Enquist, Miss Edith Wynne, and Mr. Joseph Hemings Sill: Sill:

OPERAS IN ITALIAN.—At this time of day there is small possibility of writing anything new on such stablished classics as 'Don Giovanni,' 'Il Flauto,' 'Oberon'; especially when these operas are given, at Her Majesty's Theatre, by singers none of whom are strange to us. It is to be observed that the structure of Mr. Mapleson's company naturally and legitimately heavy or the selection of his ally and legitimately bears on the selection of his apertory. He has not one leading Italian female bealist, and so naturally falls back on the music a which his artists are heard to more advantage han in the "music of the South." The part of

Rezia well fits the ample means of Mdlle. Tietjens; that of Pamina, the less obtrusive, but not less valuable, graces of Madame Harriers Wippern. Mdlle. de Murska has not improved; and if "the town" should end by becoming weary of her dashing and feverish style, she may thank herself for it,—having failed to complete that which was incomplete. There is no excuse for vocalists having such natural means and facility as hers have been; if they refuse to work these out. there is only one sure they refuse to work these out, there is only one sure result. Madame Trebelli-Bettiniis the best songstress of the party; and though she has too few opportunities of being heard advantageously, she "makes her mark," as, for instance, in the part of Weber's Patima, "created" (as the jargon runs) by that relevet-voiced contratto, Madame Vestris. Signor Mongini is making some way with his public; but whereas he is "the organ," Signor Gardoni is the artist, as his singing in 'Iphigenia' abundantly shows. We are looking forward with no ordinary interest to the production of 'Il Serraglio,' Mozart's best, or rather, it may be said, his only, comic opera. The management might do worse than adopt the arrangement of the stupid book, prepared, at M. Carvalho's instance, for the Théâtre Lyrique of Paris. result. Madame Trebelli-Bettini is the best songstress

How charming is 'Fra Diavolo,' as compared with the 'Traviata' sickliness and the 'Martha' meagreness, and 'L'Africaine' with its coil and cumber, we never felt more emphatically than on the occasion of its present revival. The strength of this, so far as dramatis persona are concerned, lies with the gentlemen of the cast. Mdlle. Lucca, nes with the gentlemen of the cast. Mdlle. Lucca, it is true, apparently entrances the public as Zerlina. She looks pretty and sly and "gushing," the very figure for the peasant-maid of the southern inn. She acts, too, with all the confidence of high animal spirits, yet with a diminution of the exuberance she used to show, which could only be accepted as dramatic by witnesses having "fast" propensities. In short, she respects herself and her part more than formerly. and must therefore receive accepted as dramatic by witnesses having "fast" propensities. In short, she respects herself and her part more than formerly, and must therefore receive due credit from those who enjoyed more sparingly than did her idolaters her "nods and becks, and wreathed smiles." But Mdlle. Lucca does not sing so well as she did. The grace of youth is passing from her voice; it is not always in tune; the crisp accent demanded by M. Auber's music is wanting. But in the concerted pieces she is dragged down by Mdlle. Morensi (the Lady Kobury), who looks elegant enough, but is as unsatisfactory a vocalist as has been heard. Why not have tried in the part, Mdlle. Deconei, of whom—novice though she be—report speaks highly, or even Signora Biancolini? The honours of the representation belong to Signor Naudin, who sings his best, and neither looks nor acts his worst, in the part of Fra Diavolo,—to Signor Ronconi, whose fun, as the travelling Milord Bull, seems imperishable, and who, by adroit or instinctive management, makes us forget as completely as he did (how many years ago?) the limited quality of his voice and certain of its habits,—to Signor Neri-Baradii, a steady, if not a very interesting Lorenzo (when was our walking lover interesting?)—and to Signori Tagliafico and Ciampi, the two bandits. The latter, if not as whimsical as was poor M. Zelger (whose whimsicality was, by the way, in some sort physical), seconded Signor Tagliafico's by-play efficiently. As costume figures, a more precious pair of vagabonds could not be dreamed of or devised. In short, the opera must be said to go well; thanks, in no small part, to the unparagoned devised. In short, the opera must be said to go well; thanks, in no small part, to the unparagoned brilliancy, lightness and sensitiveness of the brilliancy, lightness and sensitiveness of the orchestra, commanded to perfection by Mr. Costa; thanks, further, to good stage management—probable scenery; but thanks, most of all, to the inherent vivacity of the drama in music itself, which, as a complete whole, we rate more highly than M. Auber's 'La Muette,' and by the side of his 'Le Domino Noir.—Of Mdlle. Patti, in 'L' Étoig,' we shall speak another day.—Mdlle. Artôt is to present herself in the faded, jaded, ungrateful part of 'La Traviata' this evening.

the most showy quality, but at which no novelty could be by any reason expected. How the artists bear such pressure of over-work as has been of late imposed on them is a marvel. It is true that the number of private concerts—as existing that the number of private concerts—as existing entertainments, alike senseless, trite and costly—is not what it used to be. The "serial" fashion is rather exhausting; but it is on the increase; and especially among those professors who desire to appeal to the world as composers. Not the least worthy of these is Mr. Walter Macfarren, who writes with a well-directed ambition, if not always with even excellence. This day week, at his last Matinte, were presented, among other interesting pieces, a second Tarantella (Lamborn Cock & Co.) and L'Appassionata, Grand Duo (Hutchings & Romer). The theme of the first is spirited and clever—new a pianoforte Tarantella can hardly be now--new a pianoforte Tarantella can hardly be nowa-days; and in the best of its class there is always some liability to monotony in the regular best of the left hand. Mr. Macfarren, on the whole, has wrought well. His attention may be called to a typographical omission, page 4, stave 2, where at the passage marked con fuoco a third bar seems wanting. 'L'Appassionata' is not misnomered; being a molto allegro movement, built on an agitated subject, well carried out. Its "cut," however, makes us ask whether it was originally conceived for four hands on the keyed instrument, or for an orchestra? And some effect might have been gained

orchestra? And some effect might have been gained by a few notes of preparation (ever so few) before the subject was rushed into. The ear is taken unawares. In any event, Mr. W. Macfarren will gain in credit by these new compositions.

On Monday morning that industrious professor, Herr Ganz, gave his concert, with a monster programme, including many of his own compositions.—In the evening the last Popular Concert but one was given, with Herr Wieniawski as principal violin; Mr. Halle at the piano; and, for singer, Miss Edith Wynne. This young lady's delicious rendering of Mr. A. S. Sullivan's Shakspeare song, 'Orpheus,' is one of the most charming things of the season. What a contrast to the namby-pamby ballads with which we have been too liberally dosed of late days!

We have not heard either Herr Auer or Herr Jaell to such advantage as at the last meeting of

Jaell to such advantage as at the last meeting of the Musical Union. Rarely has Boothoven's Trio in G been better played or better relished; and be it noted that the very delicacy and simplicity of the music are sure to betray want of tone or want of style. Herr Auer has a famous future before him if he continues to work. His violin solo, by M. Wieniawski, was given with great grace and purity. Besides these pieces Mozart's Stringed Quintett in a minor was played, and Schumann's Pianoforte Quintett.

Panotorte Quintett.

The last concert of the New Philharmonic Society took place on Wednesday. Mr. T. F. Barnett was the pianist.—Besides the above, a monster concert has been given by Madame Rudersdorff,—a harp concert by that elegant artist, Mr. John Thomas,—and a concert by Malle. Gayrard Pacini.

Sadler's Wells.—On Saturday, though late in the season, a serious effort was made to sustain the fortunes of this house, under Mr. Nation's management, by the production of a novelty, in the shape of an adaptation of Mr. Charles Dickens's very elaborate novel of 'Our Mutual Friend.' The task has been confided to Mr. Farnie, who has set to work in real earnest to extract a drama from the chapters of the book. In accomplishing this, he had first of all to select his materials, and very chapters of the book. In accompusing this, he had first of all to select his materials, and very judiciously resolved to eliminate from his scenes the episode of the little doll-maker, which, good as it is, would only have interrupted the development of the main plot. Even with this reduction, the amount of material retained is inconveniently large, and could not be reduced within ordinary limits.
'The Golden Dustman' (such is the title of the new piece) extends to five parts, consisting of a Prologue and four acts, which occupy in performance the space of four hours and a half. In dramas of this nature it is the practice of adapters in general Concerts.—We must here group together a few memoranda on concerts. The tide of these is to sacrifice dialogue to the rapidity of action. Mr. not yet slackening. The rival opera-houses have been coming into the field with entertainments of lavish of words, and through them permitted cha-

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racter to be more fully developed than usual. No doubt he will be counselled by purely theatrical critics to suppress much of this; but, notwithstanding that the roughs on Saturday showed some degree of impatience, we hesitate not to aver that more harm than good would, in this instance, result from the pruning process. Mr. Farnie's method has the advantage of making his story clear; and his drama is readily and easily understood. The Prologue sets before us the basis of the plot with singular neatness. Here we have the public house by the water side, kept by Rogue Riderhood, whose relations with Hexam are cleverly shown, and the supposed murder of John Harmon is enacted with a distinctness of delineation and purpose which places every detail of the transaction in its proper light. The scene, too, serves to introduce some of the leading characters, and fairly starts the consecutive drama which follows. With the drama proper commences our acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. Boffin (Mr. Barrett and Mrs. Bishop), and also Silas Wegg, the ballad-littérateur (Mr. Belmore). These parts are all excellently played, and the last in a manner so effective that Silas Wegg really becomes the most prominent of the dramatis personæ. The characters of Bradley Headstone (Mr. C. Warner) and Eugene Wrayburn (Mr. F. Barsby) are also carefully and efficiently supported, though the former, we think, would much improved by a less violent tone. The Wilfer family are characteristically distinguished and Miss Fanny Gwynne, as Bella Wilfer, brought out both the part and the situation into distinct relief. Lizzie Hexam was adequately represented by Miss Ada Dyas. The scene in which Silas Wegg turns round on his benefactor and discloses to him the discovery of the will was capitally managed; and the chase between the woodenlegged ruffian and the rather obese Boffin for the possession of the mysterious bottle which contains the real last will of the eccentric testator was abundantly amusing. The scene of the lock on the Thames—where Headstone overhears the wooing Thames—where Headstone overnears the woong of Lizzie and Wrayburn, and afterwards throws the latter into the Thames, and is in turn dragged down by *Riderhood* (Mr. W. M'Intire) into the water of the lock, where both perish miserably is well set by the scenic artist, and powerfully acted by the representatives of the characters. Wrayburn, as in the novel, is saved by Lizzie Hexam in a boat, -an incident which more preparation and explanation than the play-wright has made room for. We must not omit to commend Mr. Swinbourne for his quiet manner in depicting John Harmon, whether as the sailor or the secretary, nor Mr. Barrett, for the very effective style in which he brought out every point of the part of Mr. Boffin. The situations in which these are engaged resemble too much, perhaps, those between Sir Thomas Clifford and Julia, in between Sir Thomas Clifford and Julia, in Knowles's 'Hunchback'; but Mr. Farnie has shown great judgment in avoiding the mystery, and, by making Boffin avow his intention beforehand, has made the subsequent scenes, much to the satisfaction of the audience, perfectly intelligible. Mrs. Poynter, too, as Mrs. Wilfer, acted the precise mother to the life, and conduced much to the success of the piece; and Mr. M'Intire gave to Rogue Riderhood a rough and picturesque energy which was especially helpful in imparting an earnest reality both to his character and conduct. The motives of all parties are, perhaps, rather shadowy, and the different performers had to give distinct individuality to each; but they succeeded admirably in their attempts at realization. The prosperity of the new drama will be greatly due to their exertions. In strenuous effort all were alike, and equally deserving of praise.

LYCEUM .- A new piece, as the prelude to 'The Corsican Brothers,' has been produced here, under the title of 'Doctor Davy.' It is an adaptation by Mr. Francis Albery of 'Le Docteur Robin,' a little drama which M. Melesville expanded into his 'Sullivan,' and on which Mr. T. W. Robertson founded his 'David Garrick,' as acted by Mr. Sothern at the Haymarket last season. The drama of 'Doctor Davy' is comprised in one act; and, while it most distinctly portrays the relative characters of the citizen and the actor, supplies both with dialogue, in which the topics are well chosen and competence at least equal to his own. We with dialogue, in which the topics are well chosen and dramatically effective. The part is supported by Mr. Herman Vezin, and so well acted that his reputation will be much increased by the assumption. The points in the performance are three: one, he tells a tale of a child on the roof of a house in pursuit of a flower, to the terror of her mother and the crowd in the street, in order to show that acting may exist without reference to the adjuncts of the stage; another, where he assumes the garb of a physician, and counsels the young lady on the state of her affections; and the third, where he feigns inebriety, in order to disgust her with himself, and induce her to accept the lover selected for her by her father. The delineation was masterly in each of its phases. We should not be surprised if this simple drama were to become more popular than the two more elaborate specimens unded upon the same theme.

STANDARD.—A new burlesque by Mr. Burnaud, entitled 'Sappho; or, Look before you Leap,' has been introduced here to a London audience. It had been previously acted in the provinces. A special company has been provided for it, namely, Felix Rogers, Miss Jenny Willmore, Mr. Henry Haynes, and others. Mr. Rogers undertakes the part of the poetess, and caricatures it in a broad style, which provokes the loud laugh. The character, we believe, was expressly written for him, and is certainly skilfully embodied. Phaon is neatly realized by Miss Willmore. He is represented as being in debt, and receiving pecuniary assistance from Sappho, whom he promises to marry. But (Miss Louise Laidlaw) has prior claims, Cleomene and Sappho is forsaken. In vain she appeals for vengeance to Alcœus (Miss Findland). She then follows her faithless lover to Leucadia, where his marriage with Cleomene is about to take place, but which she interrupts, exhibiting her jealousy and uttering her malediction in the styles of Medea and Deborah. The scenes from these dramas are outrageously parodied; and Mr. Rogers, writhing on the ground, exaggerates the burlesque to a fearful pitch of tragic extravagance. In the access of fury Sappho throws the statue of Apollo to the ground, whereupon the god himself appears, and dooms her to the fatal leap into the sea. The scenery is very to the fatal leap into the sea. The scenery is very beautiful. The dialogue is elegant, and the acting altogether of a superior kind.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

Remonstrances and facts, showing the unsoundness of the "royalty" system, by which singers and publishers thrive at the expense of those write, and debar those who will not bend the knee to the Calf of Gold from fair hearing, have poured in since the hour when we conceived it a duty to take the question in hand. There has been in our time nothing more deadly for Music, nothing more painful to deal with, than this practice, because those who the most obsequiously and unblushingly lend themselves to it too often belong to those ranks of art and of society in which, if anywhere, honour should assert itself. If obligations of the kind can be allowed an instant's existence, where should they lie? On the side of the singer: who should pay for good music, adapted to his powers, rather than take pay for cramming paltry stuff into the ears of the public. those who cannot push, and will not, on principle, lend themselves to what is unsound, and thus discreditable, must go to the wall. There is many a ripe man of letters, on whose training time, fortune and conscientious labour have been spent, whose annual income is a pittance compared with the sums swept in, apart from their professional engagements, by those who condescend to travel through the land on such ballads as 'Polly's Offer,' 'The Cuckoo's Note ' and 'I never would.' It is needless to point out that the above strictures are directed against a practice, and not this or the other person. We cannot believe that any real other person. artist, who may have fallen into the fashion out of inadvertence, or by lending too easy an ear to the flatteries to which public favourites are so perilously exposed, could, if he thought twice of so simple a subject, continue in a course of injustice which is so discouragingly injurious to those who, to

keep the subject in the view of authors, compound singers and publishers;—aware the while that a abuse at once specious, to some profitable, a deeply rooted, is not to be abolished or diminish without patient and reiterated efforts.

"Having occasionally," writes a Correspondent heard discussions on the proper intervals to set down musically to represent the cuckoo's note and having had this spring good opportunities observing the facts, perhaps you will permit a to recount them. In April I heard repeatedly the interval of a minor third, G flat and E flat. In the latter part of May, in the same locality, I hear on several successive days the interval of a major second, G flat and A flat; and this month several occasions I have heard the major thin F sharp and D. I should be glad to know if an of your readers have observed other international than the abovementioned from the cuckoo. While writing, allow me to ask some of your musical correspondents to explain how it is that the en detects no discords in the chorus of many various kinds of singing birds that may be heard warbing together in some localities. I think it must be admitted as a fact, that the various birds are piping their melodies in many different and unrelated 'keys,' as well as in different 'times.' With the human voice, or with musical instruments, a choru so arranged would be all discord. How is it there is no unpleasant effect with the 'music of the grove'? Perhaps it is rather a question of acoustical science than of musical theory; but it may be interesting to others besides—

J. B." interesting to others besides-

We have to acknowledge many German paper musical and unmusical, kindly forwarded to a from which is to be gathered that Herr Abert's open, Astorga,' produced at Stuttgart, has been really successful, and not one of those cold transaction to which almost a frank failure is preferable—"a success of esteem." How far it will travel through the storm which may be said to have broken out in dis-united Germany, who can presume to fore A distinct recollection of the score satisfies us that 'Astorga' will add credit to the reputation of the composer of the 'Columbus' Symphony. Increased popularity, and with it fluency of composition, might add to his great known resources that quick ness and lightness of fancy which are indispensable to a writer of the first class. It cannot be too often told, and told again, that by scrutiny and exercise the gift of melody (otherwise the gift of musical first imagination) may be strengthened and widened It would be pleasant to find this old truth illustrated by a new German composer, singularly clear of those shameless vagaries which discreditably distinguish the "Anabaptists" and iconoclasts of the so-called new school. We are happy in the hope that this is perishing of its own absurdity. Meanwhile, we are glad to think that a prophet is not always without honour in his own country. Herr Abert's work, which, we read, had been care fully prepared, and was as well presented as the ways and means of the Stuttgart opera-house permit, was most cordially received;—so was its maker, who was justly greeted on the morrow of its success with a Court appointment.

Mendelssohn's Choruses to 'Antigone,' in conjunction with the translated and acted drama, have reappeared at the opera-house of Berlin, and it is said have there produced more than their first effect. Who can wonder? It may be that the cynical and critical folk of the Prussian capital will some day come to a compelled, if not to a willing, admiration of their townsman, the last and not the least of the great German composers.

There is to be a Rameau Festival at Dijon on the 1st and 2nd of next month.

Good things are said in the Gazette Musicale of some new chamber compositions by M. Adolphe

On Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean completed their engagement at the Princess's Theatre. During its continuance Mr. Kean has performed Wolsey, Louis the Eleventh, Shylock, Hanlet, and Mr. Oakley. The theatre will be closed until the 2nd of July, when a new play by Mr. Watts

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Phillips, called 'The Huguenot Captain' will be performed.

It is curious that the other evening at the celebration of Corneille's anniversary at the Théâtre Français, a main feature should have been a perfrançais, a main reactive should have been a per-formance of a portion of 'Le Cid' in Italian, by Signor Rossi's company. Taking this in conjunction with the fact of the Shakspeare passion recently noticed, it would seem as if our neighbours were making some advance in the liberality which, with all their wit and shrewdness, has been hitherto olargely wanting to their letters and arts.

In the summer season the Parisian theatres In the summer season the Parisian theatres produce all manner of works, from which no one can expect any result. Why then give them at all? Thus, the Théâtre Lyrique has brought out a one-act operetta, 'Le Sorcier,' by Madame Anais Marcelli (this professedly a pseudonym); a second, 'Les Dragées de Suzette,' the music by M. Hector Salomon; and the Théâtre Fantaisies Parisiennes has given another onedes Fantaisies Parisiennes has given another one-act opera, 'Bettina,' by M. Léonce Cohen. To what does all this lead?—to a dangerous and weak imitation of the nonsense and frivolity of Herr Offenbach: to nothing better nor beyond. And, a perhaps may be implied from the announcements of the grand musical theatre of France, the impoverishment of the staff of artists every-where, no matter what their occupation, could hardly be more clearly illustrated than by the threat of the revival there of Gluck's 'Alceste, -the grand Greek heroine to be presented by Mdlle, Battu!

MISCELLANEA

The Solution of the Egg Problem.—If the Times newspaper, when it stated, in its leading article of the 10th of May last, "It is really impossible to make an egg stand on its end; so Columbus crashed in the impossible basis, and made it stand, though with some damage to the refractory shell," had only added, "as the egg has been cast forth from the mother-bird," then its eloquent writer would have stated a simple and provable fact, for in that case it is really impossible to make an egg stand upon its end; but not for the reason assigned in the Times newspaper, viz., that the basis is an impossible one, unless we do as we are told Columbus did, namely, crush in the refractory shell, and so make it stand:—the truth being, that either end of the egg-shell furnishes a completely sufficient basis for the egg itself to be poised upon and be made to stand on its end when it comes forth from the hen, unless manipulated upon, is, that the divine arrangement for the future hatchthat the divine arrangement for the future hatching and giving due shape to the young chick has caused the centre of gravity of the contents of the egg to lie, not at either end, but at one side; but if we remove the centre of if we remove the centre of gravity, by shaking the egg, so that the contents will follow it to either end of the shell, then, by the laws of gravity, the egg will stand upon either point. To effect the downward course of the heaviest parts of the contents, to the narrow as well as the broad end of the shell, only requires a little skill and patience, and then the egg will stand upon the narrow basis just as firmly as upon the broad end, and that, too, without doing any damage to the refractory shell:

—the fact being the shell has nothing to do in creating the difficulty. If, however, the egg is allowed to be under the hen, so that the young chick is actually formed, then, and in that case, it will be investibly the same of the being the shell as the same of the same o be impossible, by any process of shaking, to alter the centre of gravity, and such an egg, in such a condition as that, can never be made to stand upon its end. Permit me now to let your readers into a little secret, whenever they come across a certain class of savants who meet you with incredulity, and will

that it is not impossible to make an egg stand upon its end without breaking in the refractory shell,"
my opponents became mute, and I felt justified,
seeing they would not, in the first instance, so much as give me an opportunity of explaining how the thing was done, to amuse myself at their expense, which I did as follows:—I first produced a fresh egg, the contents of which I had previously caused to flow to the broad end of the shell, and I said, "Now, gentlemen, there is an egg; at my command it shall obey any person present, and the laws of its nature will allow it to stand on its end: laws of its nature will allow it to stand on its end: while here is another egg (which I was aware had the chick well formed within it), that at my command will, from the laws of its nature, allow none amongst us to make it stand, unless we crush in the shell." They all seemed a good deal amazed at the result, seeing that none of them were aware of the cause, seeing both the eggs manifested the truth of my language, inascept has none or would out did stand were it. inasmuch as one egg would and did stand upon its end, and do as it was bid; but nothing would make the other do so short of breaking in its shell. Your readers, however, will find in the above Your readers, however, will find in the above narrative the true explanation and full solution of the egg problem. In conclusion, permit me to assure, through your widely-circulated columns, our numerous midland journals, who have paragraphs headed, "The Vicar of Leamington on Eggs," it would be more correct to say, "The Times Newspaper upon Eggs"; for on the present occasion the eloquent writer in that journal, when he sat upon eggs, only addled the problem; and in future, when some indignant political reader of its pages will occupy himself by pointing out its various contradictions, by only allowing a few weeks to intervene in its publication, we may hope he will let go his useless anger, and be so good as weeks to intervene in its publication, we may hope he will let go his useless anger, and be so good as to keep his temper with our leading journal, which, in fact, notwithstanding its mistakes,—which are neither few nor far between,—is for all that an honour and credit to our country, and apologize for it to puzzled foreigners, by good humouredly suggesting, concerning its self-evident contradic-tions,—"Oh, it is only the *Times* newspaper balancing eggs!"

JOHN CRAIG, Vicar of Leamington. Golden Hair.—In reading Bishop Jeremy Taylor's 'Sermon on the Marriage Ring,' I met with this passage, which shows how fashions repeat themselves: "Menander, in the comedy, brings in a man turning his wife from his house because she stain'd her hair yellow, which was then the

beauty.

Nöν δ' ἔρπ' ἀπ' οἰκων τῶνδε: τὴν γυναῖκα γὰρ Τὴν σώφρον' οὐ δεῖ τὰς τρίχας ξανθὰς ποιείν. A wise woman should not paint." My mother, an old lady of seventy, tells me that an old French lady, whom she knew in France some fifty years ago, used to laugh, and say, "Just imagine that I used to be so foolish as to wear a light flaxen wig." She was a very decided brunette; and she said that blondes were dark wigs. This was in the days of A. S. P. the First Empire.

The Mole. —I am-glad that you have said a word in favour of my neighbour,

The moldiwarp in pleasant meads that breeds

He is a great friend to the farmer, and none but very foolish ones ever kill him under common circumstances. But there are places where he is a public enemy, and, as such, is fitly adjudged to death without mercy.

Salus populi suprema lex

(forgive a farmer for airing his little Latin) is the law that governs moldiwarps as well as monarchs. The ordinary grounds on which his persecution is justified are arrant nonsense. He is not a vege-table feeder, as any one might know who would have the curiosity to open his mouth; and he never secret, whenever they come across a certain class for savants who meet you with incredulity, and will not give you so much as a hearing. In that case, let your readers do as I did: use the talismanic words, "I shall wager you one hundred pounds." This argumentum ad crumenam produces a most magical effect. I have always found it so, and certainly did in the present instance; for when I stated, "I am ready to wager one hundred pounds that he runs his burrows beneath shallow under-

drains, and lets the tiles drop down, thus stopping the course of the water. Thousands of acres of "soughing" have been injured, past remedy, by this unfortunate habit. But the crowning sin of the mole is, that where the land is low we are or the mole is, that where the land is low we are in perpetual danger of a deluge from his piercing holes in the drain-banks. This danger is so great and ever-present that it would be madness not to extirpate the creatures in those places where the waters in drains, or rivers, are above the level of the lands around. This is especially necessary when the banks are made of sand or earth of loose texture. More than one accident of very serious nature has happened under my own eyes from

the water having got Some mole-hole runs where we expected not.

On reading over my letter preparatory to affixing a signature to the same, I find I have used the a signature to the same, I find I have used the word "soughing" to signify under-drains. Sough is the old Lincolnshire and Yorkshire word to signify an underground channel for water. Can you tell me why writers on agriculture have determined to scout it, and introduce an awkward double word like under-drain, which, after all, does not make its meaning so clear as the provincial term? I do not know whether it is to be found in any dictionary; but I do know that, if one persists in using it no enversation, one is thought persists in using it in conversation, one is thought persists in using it in conversation, one is thought to be much wanting in that elegant diction which the agricultural periodicals cultivate, but specimens of whose highest excellence are only to be found in the advertising pamphlets of agricultural implement-makers and manure-merchants. A LINCOLNSHIRE FARMER.

Saxon Charters.—Could not Mr. Thorpe's edition of the Topographical Charters be made subservient to a better identification of the places mentioned in Kemble's Codex Dipl. Ævi Sax. than is con-tained in the Index to that work? This, too, would be effecting a part of that which Dr. Hyde Clarke recently expressed a wish for in your columns. I think I have identified a few places in Kenble's volumes which he had not, and would willingly contribute a list of them to any one who wished to have it.

Wells Cathedral.-National monuments are the very best commentaries upon national history which a people can leave behind them. This thought is suggested by an investigation into the historical aning of one of the most complete and most valuable historical monuments, if not the most complete and valuable now extant in the country—the west front of Wells Cathedral. No one can stand before that scalptured page of biblical, ecclesiastical and political history, with its "glorious company of the apostles," its "noble army of martyrs," its kings, princes, bishops, abbots, knights, and scriptural representations, without perceiving at once that it is a triumph of Art. But the admiration we feel for it as an artistic and devotional work becomes deeper and more lasting, and its innate value is increased, when we examine for a moment the lesson it teaches. It was not decorated with that crowd of six hundred figures for the mere sake of decoration alone; there is a deeper meaning in it still: it was an expression of the pent-up feelings of the whole country just as it existed at that time; it was the last protest of a race which had been glorious in its day, but which was retiring, sadly, before a more powerful and dominant race. Let us appeal to history. The spirit of the Saxons was not extinguished at the fatal battle of Hastings. An alien race at the latal battle of Hastings. At allier life settled in the country, of a different blood, different language, and different life, and prepared by every means in its power to exterminate all trace of Saxon habit, speech, and, if possible, of the Saxons themselves. For two centuries the struggle was maintained; no longer on the field of battle, but in every corner of the land,—in the cottage, in the hall, at the tournament, and in the church fierce struggle between two races, neither of which was destined to be completely victorious. But as regards the manners, offices and domination of the kingdom, the struggle was almost abandoned by the Saxons at the end of those two centuries: the Normans absorbed everything,—speech, laws, lands and dignities. As late as 1145, William of Malmesbury tells us that, "England has become the

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cale of dolphe as per-Tamlet. until Watts

residence of foreigners and the property of strangers; at the present time there is no Englishman either earl, bishop or abbot; strangers all, they prey upon the vitals of England; nor is there any hope of a termination of this misery." Things went on thus to the beginning of the thirteenth century, when a ray of hope was infused into the Saxon mind by the elevation of Joselyn Trotman, an Anglo-Saxon and native of Wells, to the bishopric of that place. This was a signal for a revival of Saxon glory. The new bishop determined upon rebuilding the church, and availing himself of the opportunity of leaving behind him a monument to the memory of his forefathers which should out-live even Norman pride. The church was almost wholly rebuilt, and the west front, it was determined, should be a splendid mausoleum to the departed glory of the Saxons, and a protest boldly outspoken against Norman arrogance and Norman tyranny in the very face of the Normans themselves. The whole mass of decorations, the greater part of which is still complete, is arranged on a perfect plan. They may be taken laterally from left to right, and in this way there are nine rows from the basement to the summit : or they may be taken vertically, in columns from the bottom to the top, when we shall find that, taken thus, the columns of figures on the left hand or northern side are all temporal, and those on the right hand or southern side are all spiritual, in their character. The point or apex of the building contained only three niches, in which stood our Saviour, having on one side the Virgin, and on the other John the Baptist: icon-oclasm has removed them. In the second row beneath are the twelve apostles. In the third the hierarchy of heaven, fifteen angels. From this point the rows run across the whole surface of the front. The fourth contains an allegorical representation of the Resurrection, in ninety-two pieces of sculpture, and 150 statues. The fifth and sixth rows consist of 126 niches, filled with kings, queens, princes, abbots, bishops, priests, martyrs, nobles who were noted for their piety, learning and charity. In the seventh are forty-eight illustrations from the Old and New Testaments. In the eighth are thirtytwo pieces of sculpture, containing descents of angels. In the ninth are sixty-two niches, nearly all of which are vacant; they were supposed to contain the earliest missionaries of Christianity in the kingdom—the founders and supporters of the British, not the Augustinian Church. In all this mass of sculpture there is not one Norman or Plantagenet figure; but we may find them in a series of columns in a sheltered, secluded position behind the north-western tower. The west front was the Olympus of the Saxons, and there is scarcely a name preserved to us in the written history of that dynasty whose figure is not to be found there. They were willing to recognize Norman and Plantagenet benefactors; but they stowed them away behind, out of Saxon company, and there stands the work, after six centuries, a petrified confirmation of a great historical truth. It was the achievement of a bold people, who were not to be extinguished, and who have never yet been extinguished. We are a mixed people; but the flight of centuries has not yet driven the Saxon spirit out of us. Other type-races have died out: the Greek and the Roman are gone. An Italian of to-day is no more to be compared with his heroic ancestors than a modern Greek fig-merchant can be compared with Jupiter. But we are still Saxons,—the same restless, intractable race, manifesting the same extraordinary readiness to lay hold upon other men's territory, and the same reluctance to relinquish our hold, as did that band of stalwart barbarian pirates first mentioned by Ptolemy as the "Saxons," who, in the second century, lived on a piece of marshy land, near the mouth of the Elbe a people with scarcely a dry footing in the world. But we must not lose sight of the lesson which this magnificent specimen of monumental history teaches us. It is a confirmation of six centuries of Saxon annals, and a lasting trophy of Saxon inde-pendence. O'DELL TRAVERS HILL. pendence. Kildare Terrace.

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